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## WHERE'S HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK?

REEL GUYS TALK ABOUT THEIR FAVOURITE HOLIDAY MOVIES ... NOT ALL OF THEM ARE SO FEEL GOOD **PAGE 15**



## Deck the halls with ... bogus bills?

Hey, it's Christmas for counterfeiters, too. Police warn to be on the lookout for fake \$20, \$100 **PAGE 2**

## Ford in trouble; in other news, the sun rose

T.O. mayor calls newest allegation — of consorting with gang members — an 'outright lie' **PAGE 9**

## 'I learned my lesson': Coach

London Lightning take drug testing seriously — they do it themselves — even though it's not mandated by the league **PAGE 28**



This picture taken on Aug. 26, 2005, shows former South African president and Nobel Peace Prize winner Nelson Mandela at the Mandela Foundation in Johannesburg. Mandela died Thursday at age 95. For more coverage, see page 13. GETTY IMAGES

# 'A huge loss to the world'

**Nelson Mandela.**  
Beloved statesman dies at age 95

London's Mohamed Salih put it simply.

Nelson Mandela's death is "a huge loss to the world."

"Growing up, he was definitely an inspiration, and he was a role model," said Salih, who was born in Sudan and considers Mandela a personal hero. "I think the world has lost a great public figure."

Mandela, who became one of the world's most beloved statesmen and a colossus of the 20th century when he emerged from 27 years in prison to negotiate an end to white minority rule in South Africa, died Thursday. He was 95 and had been in declining health for months.

South African President Jacob Zuma made the announcement at a news conference, saying "we've lost our greatest son."

His death closed the final chapter in South Africa's strug-

gle to cast off apartheid, leaving the world with indelible memories of a man of astonishing grace and good humour.

Salih said no one in the world will be able to replace Mandela, an honorary Canadian citizen. Salih recited a quote from Mandela that has inspired him for years: "We must use time wisely and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right."

Belinda Dodson, former director of Western University's graduate program in migration and ethnic relations, said without Mandela the history of South Africa would likely have gone down a very different and much darker path.

"The fact that he was able to come away from (his time in prison) not vengeful but conciliatory is not only remarkable in itself, but was a key factor in South Africa's transformation from a draconian and racist state to one that is more progressive, inclusive and democratic," Dodson said.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

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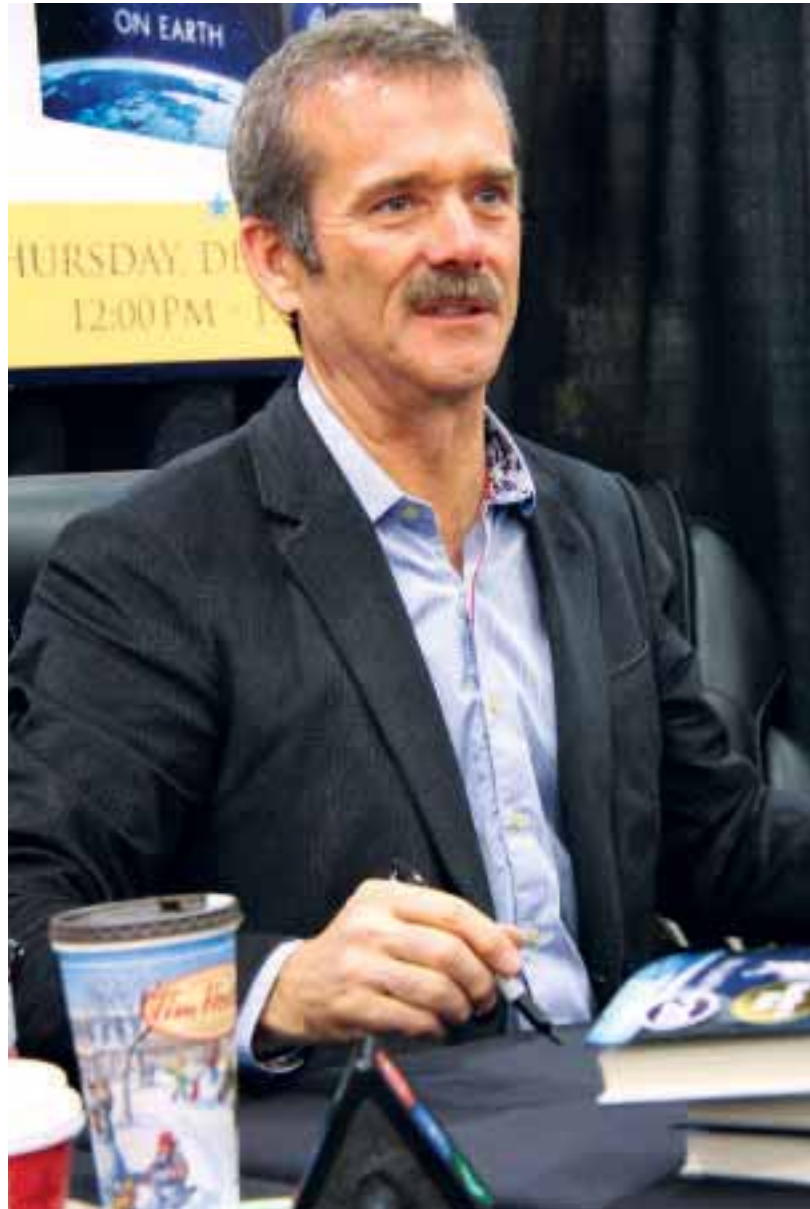
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## Down-to-earth Chris Hadfield is a star

Retired astronaut Chris Hadfield caused a huge stir Thursday when he had a book signing at the south London Costco. They sold out of 1,800 books and the line for signing stretched up and down eight aisles of the store. In true Canadian style, Hadfield apologized to every customer for their wait of up to two hours.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

# Fa la, la, la, la ... fake?

**Beware.** Counterfeit cash reports spiking as happy holidays harken

### The real deal

What to look for in the real bill:

- **A metallic stripe.** Tilt the note back and forth. The numbers and maple leaves change colour.
- **Raised ink.** Feel for the thicker ink on the large number, the shoulders of the portrait and the words 'Bank of Canada'.
- **Ghost image.** Hold the bill up and look through it. A small watermark of the portrait appears.

It's nearing the holiday season and that means consumers are starting to spend and counterfeiters are in full production.

The London police are warning businesses about an increase in phony \$20 and \$100 bills being spread around town.

They're not the newer polymer bank notes that are believed to be nearly impossible to counterfeit, but rather the older bills.

Some are fairly easy to spot, but others are closer to the real thing, police said.

Bad guys use the fake bill to make a small purchase. They then pocket the real change and make a profit.

"We've seen about 60 counterfeit \$20 bills and 40 \$100 bills," said London police Const. Jacquie Edwards. "Most of them have been turned in to us by retailers."

One retailer had three phony 20s.

"The idea is to make people aware of this and help them learn how to identify a counterfeit bill," Edwards said.

Once you accept one of them, she added, you're stuck with it.

"Retailers are out that

amount of money," she said. "They really do need to identify them before accepting them."

Edwards said police see more counterfeit bills and scams of all kinds at this time of year.

One retailer in the Covent Garden Market who asked not to have his name used said he always checks older bills by holding it up to a light to be sure the right markings show up.

He also now refuses to accept older \$100 bills.

Edwards said police are actively investigating all discoveries of counterfeit cash.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

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1 According to a report by PCMag.com published on September 18, 2013. Refer to [pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2424462,00.asp](http://pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2424462,00.asp) for more info. © 2013 Rogers Communications.

# Mayor Fontana attends puck-drop for provincewide youth campaign

**Ability to Bring Change.** Youth ABCs initiative expected to include more than 500 London-area kids



**MIKE DONACHIE**  
mike.donachie@metronews.ca

A provincewide movement to encourage young people to make positive changes in their lives began Thursday in London.

The announcement came at the Boys and Girls Club of London, with the Coca-Cola Foundation revealing it will kickstart the Youth ABCs initiative with a \$100,000 grant.

ABC means Ability to Bring Change, and it will begin with a program in London in the new year,

## Well-rounded approach

The Youth ABCs curriculum includes:

- Benefits of physical activity and healthy eating
- Leadership skills
- Setting goals to achieve personal dreams
- Actions to promote respect, belonging and inclusion

rolling out to similar clubs across Ontario. It's expected to involve more than 500 London-area kids in the next year.

"Our clubs across Ontario will be able to expand our services to inspire boys and girls to get active and live healthy lives," said the London club's



Mayor Joe Fontana, right, shows his hockey skills in a pick-up game at the Boys and Girls Club Thursday. He scored two goals. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

CEO, Chris Harvey.

"Most importantly, it's going to encourage young people to dream," he added.

Helping to launch the program was Mayor Joe Fontana, who also joined club members in an indoor ball-hockey

game.

"This facility is about building lives, giving people hope and opportunities, be-

## Inspiring youth

"Our clubs across Ontario will be able to expand our services to inspire boys and girls to get active and live healthy lives."

Boys and Girls Club of London CEO Chris Harvey, on the youth-centred organization.

ing optimistic and, yes, not being afraid to dream," the mayor said.

Coca-Cola's district sales manager, Blair Ellery, spoke for their 250 London staff, saying, "This great program will inspire young people in London and make a difference in the community."

Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada operate in more than 650 locations and have been helping kids for more than 110 years.

# Events to honour victims of violence

The anniversary of a shooting spree in Montreal is to be marked Friday in London.

Events across the city will remember the victims of the École Polytechnique incident, and all whose lives have been changed by gender-based violence, on the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

One will be at Fanshawe College, where professor Christine Zimmerman will speak about women's rights,

women's safety and related issues.

"We remember the victims of the 1989 shootings and honour all the sacrifices made to change our society," said Candice Lawrence, a counsellor at Fanshawe and one of the event organizers.

The memorial will include 14 student volunteers lighting candles and laying roses for the victims in Montreal.

The college will also lower its flag to half-staff as a mark of respect.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. in the front foyer of the Spencer Engineering Building at Western University.

There will also be a "ritual of remembering" at the Brescia College auditorium at noon and a candlelit vigil at the Women's Monument in Victoria Park at 5:30 p.m.

A reception will follow nearby at the Canadian Union of Postal Workers office (520 Wellington St.).

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

## École Polytechnique attack

On Dec. 6 1989, Marc Lepine killed 14 women in the École Polytechnique in Montreal.

- The attack, using a rifle, took just under 20 minutes before Lepine, 25, killed himself. He also wounded 10 people.
- He said he was "fighting feminism."



Western engineering students Emily Keyes, left, and Julianna Arcese participate in a ceremony last year to remember the 14 women killed at École Polytechnique in Montreal. METRO FILE



## So that's where our empties go

A six-storey bottle-cleaning tank rumbles along a city street Thursday morning en route to the Labatt brewery at Horton and Richmond streets. The equipment is part of a \$1.6-million upgrade to the brewery's tank and bottle-cleaning systems. A spokesman said it can clean and purify 2,600 bottles every minute. The bottles are reused an average of 15 times. SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO



## Drugs, weapon found. Traffic stop proves anything but routine

A 23-year-old man is facing a slew of charges after London police say a traffic stop turned up a cache of drugs and a sawed-off shotgun.

Sean Thomson of London was stopped Wednesday on allegations he was driving with a suspended licence.

The suspect ran from his vehicle and was later arrested. During the arrest, police say Thomson was found

to be carrying drugs and a large quantity of cash.

Police, with help from the RCMP, then got a search warrant for Thomson's home where they found more drugs and the 12-gauge shotgun.

The drugs seized, which include crack cocaine, marijuana and methamphetamine, are valued at about \$520. **METRO**



Police say this sawed-off Cooney 12-gauge shotgun was seized after a Wednesday traffic stop in London. COURTESY OF LONDON POLICE

## Tuba Christmas returns. It promises to be an oom-pah-pah good time

'Tis the season and all your favourite yuletide carols will be played — but in a completely different way.

The annual Tuba Christmas is coming back to London, bringing about 45 tuba and euphonium players together for some festive fun.

The group will give its first

performance at 4 p.m. Friday at Western's Don Wright Faculty of Music. They'll hit the Covent Garden Market for a show at noon Saturday.

The merry mayhem combines some of the best elements of the holiday together — music, singing and bringing cheer to the community at large. **METRO**

# A reminder that you mean sew much to us



Stocking sewing is under way at WOTCH. From left, Wendy Chisholm, Cynthia Graystone, Michelle Wofenden and Penny Dale. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

## Christmas stockings. Mental health patients to receive special gifts from volunteers



MIKE  
DONACHIE  
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At Christmas, it's good to show you care.

But for one part of society, it's an especially tough time of year. People with mental health problems are forgotten, by some.

One group of busy people isn't forgetting. At WOTCH Community Mental Health Ser-

vices, the sewing club is busy.

Members are making — and filling — 200 Christmas stockings. One will go to every patient in hospital at St. Joseph's Regional Mental Health Care on Christmas Day.

They will be filled with gifts, including specially made bookmarks, art therapy kits, candy canes and chocolate.

And they come with something else. They come with a message: You are in our thoughts.

"There's such a stigma with mental illness that a lot of people forget about it," said WOTCH staff member Wendy Chisholm. "Christmas is a hard time for anybody with mental

illness, and it's a win for us to cheer someone up who has a mental health condition."

She said Christmas "can be pretty miserable" for people with mental health problems.

"This (stockings initiative) is to let them know that somebody's thinking about them," added Chisholm. "To us, they're not an absent being. Their equality is important as anyone else's."

Last year, the sewing club, whose members are WOTCH clients, made almost 90 stockings.

This year they're on track to more than double the effort, partly thanks to supporters from sewing shops and

the public, who donated fabric after an appeal in September.

### Lend a helping foot

As well as 200 stockings for hospitals, WOTCH will have a limited number on sale, to pay for items to be stuffed in those going to patients.

- The options include pet stockings shaped like bones and fish.
- To buy one, visit WOTCH (Western Ontario Therapeutic Community Hostel) at 534 Queens Ave.

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## Song Quest. Londoner says her contest tune captures the thrill of a hockey game

Vote early and vote often.

That's what a London singer hopes people will do when they hear Hall of Fame, her entry in Song Quest, a contest that's looking for the next great hockey song.

Styna Veil says her song alternates between slow and fast tempos and at times reaches a crescendo — just like a hockey game.

If enough people love it as much as she does, she'll record a studio version with Canadian rocker Joel Plaskett and she'll join stars such as the Tragically Hip, Sam Roberts Band and Neil Young by having her track featured in a prime-time montage on Hockey Night in Canada.

The winner will also travel to Lloydminster to perform live at the Scotiabank Hockey Day in Canada.

It's a tall order for a woman who enjoys hockey but doesn't know much about it.

"I have a typical girl point of view about it," she said



Styna Veil CONTRIBUTED

with a laugh. "It's sexy, and I appreciate the amount of training and skill that goes into it but I really don't understand the game all that well."

Music is more her world, and Veil feels her song is a winner.

The first period of the contest ends Dec. 11. Then, the top 50 songs will move on.

Vote at [www.music.cbc.ca](http://www.music.cbc.ca).  
SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

## Ryan's Law. Tory MPP hopes proposal will help protect kids with asthma

Twelve-year-old Ryan Gibbons died last year when he suffered an asthma attack at school near Aylmer and no one could get to a puffer locked up in an office.

Tory MPP Jeff Yurek is hoping his private member's bill, named after the Grade 7 student, will help schools boards adopt standardized asthma-management plans so that it never happens again.

It is estimated that one in five children in Ontario — roughly half a million — suffer from the chronic disease.

"Asthma is one of the most common chronic conditions in childhood," the member for Elgin-Middlesex-London told a Queen's Park news conference Thursday.

"Having one's reliever puffer on hand at all times is vitally important to mitigate sudden asthma attacks," said Yurek, who is also a pharmacist.

Sandra Gibbons, 40, said her late son's elementary school in the village of Stratfordville in southwestern Ontario had a policy where children were not allowed to carry their puffers.

Since her son's death on

### Ally

The bill has the support of the Ontario Lung Association, which has a student-asthma management plan and a booklet offering seven steps on how schools can be safe for children with asthma.

Oct. 9, 2012, Gibbons has been collecting names on a petition calling for an asthma management plan for schools across the province.

"Unfortunately I stand here today trying to get this bill, Ryan's law, in place so that nobody else has to feel how I feel everyday — and that's missing my son," she told reporters.

Gibbons recalled how her son had been outside playing soccer when he told his friends he wasn't feeling well.

She said every time he took a backup inhaler to school "we always got a phone call saying he's not allowed to have it, there is supposed to be one in the office and that's the only one he could have."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Premier Kathleen Wynne chats with Mauricio Mezze, founder of Open Lab, a company that creates technologies that help people with disabilities, before last month's launch of the province's Open Government initiative. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Ontario wants to hear from you

**Accountability.** Premier sending team to London to open up dialogue on transparent government



MIKE DONACHIE  
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Everybody's got opinions on how government should run, and few people hesitate to express them.

But now, instead of waiting for voters to weigh in during election time, the province is coming to the people.

As part of its stated aim

to have more open government, Premier Kathleen Wynne's administration is sending a team to London to consult with the people.

The three key goals are: open dialogue by reaching out to people to give them a voice in developing policy; open data by making large amounts of government information available online; and open information by making documents and research widely available.

Minister of Government Services John Milloy told Metro it's about people "taking ownership" of government.

Instead of politicians forming policy and people

complaining about it later, the government wants them involved at an early stage.

"We've got to drop the pretext that government has all the answers to problems," said Milloy. "We've got to work together to find solutions."

It's a big task. The inquiry team is visiting communities across the province and will be in London on Wednesday.

After the meetings, the team will report back to government ministers by February.

They're investigating exactly which parts of the massive amount of public information should be made available — from wait times

### Got an opinion?

Londoners are invited to a consultation on open government on Wednesday.

- Stop by the London Public Library's Landon Branch at 167 Wortley Rd. from 6 to 9 p.m.
- People can also visit [ontario.ca/open](http://ontario.ca/open), follow @Ongov on Twitter or discuss the issue using #openON.

to the locations of mineral deposits to student attainment — and in what form.

## ...just don't mention those gas plants

Ontario's Liberal government may be trying to be more open, but its recent history isn't so great.

Yes, the gas plants.

Here's the potted history: the Grits cancelled plants in Oakville and Mississauga at huge cost to the taxpayer,

then admitted it was done for political reasons.

Then it proved difficult, to say the least, to get hold of the documents that explained what happened.

So, is this open government initiative an attempt to leave the dark days of the

McGuinty administration behind?

Unsurprisingly, Minister of Government Services John Milloy didn't want to talk about that when interviewed Thursday.

"I think it's broader than that," he replied. "This is

us, to be very candid, planning a bit of a shakeup with an international movement that's going on.

"Just Google 'open government' and you'll see that it's going on all over the world."

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO



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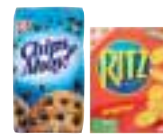
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# Business idea shows plenty of spine

**A textbook case of entrepreneurship.** Western grad's social purpose business aims to give back in a sustainable way



**MIKE DONACHIE**  
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Got an unwanted book? This guy will get it where it needs to go.

There's a new entrepreneur in the London business world, and Chris Janssen has big plans.

Just two weeks ago, he started working full-time for Textbooks for Change, a company with a heart.

Janssen, 23, a graduate of Western University's Ivey business school and so far the only full-time staff member, spends his days collecting donated novels, textbooks and other books. He gets them from special drop bins, student clubs, individual donors and businesses.

More than 50 per cent of them are sent to African uni-

## At a glance

- In its first year, Textbooks for Change sent more than 15,000 textbooks to Africa.
- It made more than \$18,000 in micro-loans, donated \$1,700 to non-profits and reused or recycled 15,760 books.
- To donate books, offer to host a drop bin or just find out more, visit [textbooksforchange.ca](http://textbooksforchange.ca).

versities or recycled. The rest are sold online so the business can make a profit.

But half of the money made by Textbooks for Change is used to make micro-loans to entrepreneurs around the world. Also, partner groups like student clubs get half the profits they help to make.

"I've always loved giving back," said Janssen. "I studied entrepreneurship and sustainability in school.

"The social purpose busi-



Entrepreneur Chris Janssen is putting his education, heart and soul into Textbooks for Change. He's hoping a little heavy lifting with the company will bring some big muscle to those who need a boost. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

ness is on the rise right now. It's the perfect balance for what I want to do. I want to give back and run a business sustainably."

And it's keeping him busy. Goodwill Industries have

provided free space to help Janssen and partner Tom Hartford, who works for the business part time, get started.

Soon, they hope, they will start employing people sup-

ported by Goodwill because they need help with tasks like sorting books.

Textbooks for Change began on Western's campus as a Shinerama idea in aid of the Terry

Fox campaign, and raised \$500.

By last year, while Janssen and Hartford were still at Western, it was a business, with the support of the university's incubator BizInc.

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## Nixed gas plants. Oakville cancellation adds only \$2 a year to hydro bills: OPA

The decision by Ontario's Liberals to cancel a gas plant in Oakville before the 2011 election will add little more than the price of a cup of coffee to the average household electricity bill, Energy Minister Bob Chiarelli said Thursday.

"It's less than a cup of Tim Hortons coffee a year," Chiarelli told reporters after the Ontario Power Authority presented its estimate on the impact of the cancelled gas plant to the legislature's justice committee, which is probing the issue.

The OPA, which estimated the hit on bills would be about \$2.01 a year, based its calculations on a total cost of \$635 million for the Oakville cancellation, but the province's auditor general warned it could be as much as \$810 million.

The OPA also did not include \$40 million in so-called sunk costs for the Oakville energy project that will be paid by Ontario taxpayers, not hydro ratepayers.

The impact of the cancelled plant on hydro bills is "minus-

cule" when spread over the 20-year life of electricity contracts and divided among 4.4 million residential customers, added Chiarelli.

However, Progressive Conservative energy critic Lisa MacLeod disputed the \$2 figure, and asked to have all supporting documents on the consumer impact of the Oakville project and another cancelled gas plant in Mississauga handed over to the justice committee within six weeks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### St. Paul's Cathedral

#### St. Nick studies

St. Paul's Cathedral is inviting everyone out for a Friday night lesson about the real Saint Nicholas — told straight from the mouth of, who else, Jolly Old Saint Nick.

The event will focus on explaining modern Christmas traditions and how Saint Nicholas became part of the festive season.

People are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for St. Paul's Social Services. **METRO**

### 11 calls since Nov. 1

#### Cops issue warning after break-ins

Middlesex County OPP is looking for tips in a rash of daytime break-ins in the Thames Centre area.

Since Nov. 1, police have handled 11 calls on a variety of streets.

Police say suspects are approaching residences in a vehicle, forcing entry and targeting items such as jewelry, big-screen televisions, laptops, desktop computers, tools and money.

Anyone with information

about the cases is asked to call their local police, OPP at 888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477.

To avoid becoming a victim, police say people should remove valuables from their vehicles, consider installing dead-bolt locks on homes and sheds, use motion-activated exterior lights and make sure landscaping doesn't obscure sightlines from windows and doors.

People should also photograph valuables and record the serial number. That information will help police hold suspects accountable if they are arrested. **METRO**



# An 'outright lie': Ford denies he offered \$5K and a car for video

## Wiretap revelations.

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly calls new allegations 'troubling'

Allegations that Rob Ford offered purported gang members money and a car in exchange for a video are an "outright lie," the Toronto mayor said Thursday amid new questions about why police did not arrest him.

Speaking on an American radio station, the scandal-plagued mayor quickly tried to change the topic when asked about the latest claims against him.

"You can talk to my lawyers about it," Ford told The Sports Junkies, a morning show based in Washington, D.C.

"I'm here to talk football, guys. So if you want to talk football, talk football; but if you want to talk about other things, then unfortunately I'm going to have to let you go."



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford uses a security guard as a shield amid a throng of media at Toronto City Hall on Thursday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The latest allegations, which have not been proven in court, are contained in wiretap summaries put together as part of a guns and gangs investigation that were in a police document released Wednesday.

The intercepts reveal men talking with familiarity about the mayor, and suggest they had supplied him with drugs and plotted to blackmail him with photographs of him doing narcotics, police said.

Ford said nothing on ar-

rival at city hall Thursday but Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly, who has taken on many of the mayor's responsibilities, said the latest allegations would not affect city business. Kelly did call allegations that Ford was consorting with

drug traffickers and gang members troubling.

"The one that's bothered me the most is the possibility of criminality being involved in one way or the other with the mayor's office," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Councillors want answers

### Why wasn't he arrested?

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly has called allegations that Ford was consorting with drug traffickers and gang members troubling.

Some city councillors called on investigators to explain why they did not arrest the mayor, but police have consistently said they didn't have sufficient evidence to do so and Ford's status as mayor had nothing to do with it.

Investigators have asked to interview Ford, but he has refused on the advice of his lawyer, Dennis Morris, who called the latest allegations baseless.

"It has no benefit," Morris said. "What you could do is create charges that presently have no foundation."

## The Arctic. Ocean acidity could damage food web

Scientists huddled in a sea-ice camp on the Arctic Ocean have produced new evidence that climate change could be threatening the food web in the Far North.

The researchers found that copepods — a key component of the Arctic food web — are likely to react poorly to increasingly acidic water caused by high levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

"There were certainly possibilities for these animals to be affected," said Ceri Lewis of the University of Exeter, lead author of a paper published this week in the Proceedings of the

### What's a copepod?

Copepods are tiny crustaceans, eaten by everything from fish to whales.

- They are one of the foundations of the marine ecosystem.

National Academy of Sciences.

The Arctic Ocean is acidifying faster than any other on Earth and all oceans are gradually losing pH.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Happy meal

### Don't bogart that burger, man

A Wendy's employee who tucked a partially smoked blunt in a customer's cheeseburger has been fired and charged with marijuana possession.

Police in the city of Love-

joy, Ga., about 40 kilometres south of downtown Atlanta, say a customer drove home with her food Nov. 1, took a bite out of the burger and noticed a strange smell wafting from it. Police say the woman pulled the bun off and saw a partially smoked blunt inside.

A blunt is marijuana rolled into a hollowed-out cigar. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Woman live-tweets her own husband's deadly car crash



Crews respond to an accident in Vancouver, Wash., on Wednesday. Caran Johnson, who regularly monitors police-scanner traffic, unknowingly live-tweeted about her husband's death in the crash. ZACHARY KAUFMAN/THE COLUMBIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Washington state woman who regularly monitors police-scanner traffic unknowingly live-tweeted about her husband's death in a freeway crash.

In a series of gut-wrenching tweets on Wednesday that grew more frantic, the Vancouver, Wash., mother first tweeted how horrible it was when she learned someone had died on Interstate 205 near the Oregon border.

Caran Johnson, who uses the handle @ScanCouver, then told her Twitter followers that she was trying not to panic because her husband, who drives the freeway, wasn't picking up his phone and was late getting home.

"I'm a basketcase," she tweeted.

Johnson also worried because her husband had epilepsy and was feeling faint when he left work early. She wondered whether he might have pulled over somewhere and fretted about how long

### Heart-rending tweet

### "it's him. he died."

Caran Johnson, tweeting about her husband's car crash, after troopers arrived at her house to tell her he had died.

she should wait for him before calling police.

As the events unfolded, she messaged Washington State Patrol spokesman Will Finn directly, asking whether he had descriptions of the vehicles involved in the collision. Finn said he didn't, but it struck him as odd so he began looking into the crash.

"I contacted the investigator and we put two and two together. I realized I had a situation on my hands," Finn said Thursday.

Troopers later went to Johnson's home to tell her that her husband, 47-year-old Craig Johnson, had died in the collision.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Great suffering, enormous need



Ottawa nurse Janique Gagnon helps vaccinate a child in the Central African Republic. CONTRIBUTED

**Médecins Sans Frontières.** Conflict in the Central African Republic as awful as high-profile crises, says Canadian nurse

**DENIS ARMSTRONG**  
For Metro in Ottawa

Janique Gagnon returned from the Central African Republic on Oct. 8 "with a heavy heart."

The Ottawa children's hospital nurse had just spent the last six months on her first mission with Médecins Sans Frontières — Doctors Without Borders — in one of the most dangerous places on earth, and though she's glad to be home with her husband and two young sons, she wants to return to the war-torn nation as soon as possible.

Before nursing, Gagnon spent 10 years in the Canadian military, deployed in Italy as well as Bosnia-Herzegovina, where she treated casualties from Sarajevo while under

fire. Gagnon retired from the military in 2001.

By then, she was looking for an opportunity to volunteer with MSF. The organization offered her the opportunity to run a 95-bed hospital in Boguila, Central African Republic — a jungle village 400 kilometres from the capital, Bangui. This was in April, only two weeks after a coup d'état reduced the tribal country to civil war.

Without blinking an eye, Gagnon accepted on the spot — nevermind that Seleka rebels and government forces fought viciously in the jungle near the hospital compound.

John Ging, the UN's director of humanitarian operations, has described the country as "a tinderbox that can ignite into something very, very big and very, very bad. Half the country's population of 4.6 million need humanitarian aid. The scale of suffering is among the worst in the world, and it's getting worse."

"I knew the conditions were bad, but that is why I wanted to be there, where the need is the greatest,"

said Gagnon.

Gagnon had arrived at the beginning of the rainy season when malaria was rampant. She treated the diseased, the dismembered and the dying, witnessing more human degradation than any person should ever see.

Thanks in part to her front-line military experience, she pushed through and focused on the job. She recalls the day she stood up to a Seleka colonel, ordering him to remove his gun prior to entering the hospital. She remembers the day she cried for the baby that died in her arms.

"Conditions were hard, but the people were so grateful we were there, they didn't want us to leave," she recalls. "I have a huge amount of respect for the people who live there. They have nothing. They can't even take care of themselves because there's nothing."

Gagnon says what they need most are schools. "Education leads to change. It's a long process, but it has to begin now."

To donate to MSF, visit [msf.ca](http://msf.ca).

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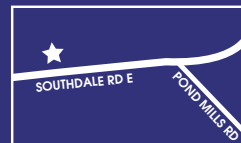
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# Brother of dead soldier speaks out

**A matter of life and death.** Help with post-traumatic stress desperately needed for those in the military, Kevin McNeil says

The younger brother of a soldier whose death has raised questions about the Canadian military's treatment of those with post-traumatic stress disorder says members of the military need to know help is available if they are suffering.

Speaking before Warrant Officer Michael McNeil's funeral Thursday, Kevin McNeil said PTSD is a problem that is not going to stop, but the risks can be minimized. "The most we can do is maybe slow it down," McNeil said outside the armoury in Truro, N.S.

"As much money as government is going to pour into this, it's not going to stop. What we can do is

make more people aware, talk to these soldiers, let them know their jobs aren't in jeopardy and we're here for them."

McNeil's death at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, northwest of Ottawa, is among four recent suicides in the military.

The Armed Forces acknowledges it will be dealing with an increased number of PTSD cases in the next decade as the stress of combat takes hold in those who have returned from the fighting in Afghanistan.

McNeil, 39, was a member 3rd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment.

McNeil said he wants his brother remembered as a family man first and secondly as a hero to his country.

McNeil's coffin was carried into the armoury by an honour guard made up of McNeil's comrades in the Royal Canadian Regiment, assisted by his brother Kevin and cousin Tim McNeil.

## Quoted

**"He gave everything to his country. He was a strong man and will be missed forever."**

Kevin McNeil, brother of Warrant Officer Michael McNeil

During the funeral service, Lt. Kendra Mellish, the widow of Warrant Officer Frank Mellish, a soldier killed in Afghanistan in September 2006, gave a reflection on her friend.

She said after her husband died, McNeil helped care for her children and would meet her when he came back from tours.

"Only seven short years ago, he was in this same position, paying homage to his friend (Frank)," she said.

She offered comfort to McNeil's two daughters, one son and one stepson.

"Be proud of the hero he was," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Members of The Royal Canadian Regiment carry the casket at the funeral for Warrant Officer Michael McNeil at the Truro Armouries in Truro, N.S. on Thursday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Libya

### American teacher killed in Benghazi

An American chemistry teacher was shot to death as he was jogging in Benghazi on Thursday, highlighting persistently tenuous security in the eastern Libyan city where a U.S. ambassador was killed last year.

There were no credible claims of responsibility, but suspicion was likely to fall on Islamic militants active in Benghazi. It came five days after al-Qaida's American spokesman called upon Libyans to attack U.S. interests everywhere as revenge for U.S. special forces snatching an al-Qaida suspect off the streets of Tripoli in October and whisking him out of the country.

The U.S. State Department identified the teacher as Ronald Thomas Smith II. The State Department did not provide Smith's hometown, and it was not possible to immediately confirm a statement from a Libyan official that he was from Texas. The University of Texas in Austin said he graduated from the school in 2006 with a master's degree in chemistry.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Syria

### Iraqi journalist fatally shot at rebel checkpoint

Syrian opposition fighters killed an Iraqi freelance journalist in the rebel-held north of the country, the latest of dozens of reporters who have died in the country over the past three years, an activist group and an international media watchdog said Thursday.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Yasser Faisal al-Jumaili was shot dead at a rebel checkpoint in the northwestern province of Idlib on Wednesday.

Soazig Dollet of the Paris-based Reporters Without Borders press advocacy group confirmed al-Jumaili was killed in Idlib, adding that his body was taken to Turkey in order to be sent home later.

The Committee to Protect Journalists said that Syria was the most dangerous country in the world for journalists in 2012. According to the group, 28 reporters were killed in that year alone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Egypt

### Prominent Egyptian activists face trial for 'illegal' protests

Prosecutors on Thursday sent to trial two of the most prominent Egyptian activists involved in the 2011 uprising that brought down Hosni Mubarak, charging them with taking part in an "illegal" protest and allegedly assaulting policemen during demonstrations last month, judiciary officials said.

The officials said the two — Ahmed Douma and Ahmed Maher — will be in court on Sunday for the first hearing. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to journalists.

This is the first referral of activists to attend trial linked to the recently enacted protest or assembly law, which places draconian conditions on staging street demonstrations. The military-backed government has defended the law as a desperately needed measure to restore law and order in order to help the battered economy recover.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Russian diplomats duped Medicaid: U.S.

Dozens of current or former Russian diplomats and their spouses enjoyed luxury vacations and spent tens of thousands of dollars on concert tickets, fine clothing and helicopter rides as they lied about their incomes to get the U.S. government to pay their health care bills with money meant for the

poor, federal prosecutors said Thursday.

The diplomats were among 49 individuals charged in a complaint unsealed in federal court in Manhattan, though no arrests were made and only 11 of the diplomats and their spouses remained in the United States. The complaint said

Medicaid, a health care program for the poor, lost about \$1.5 million in the scheme since 2004.

The defendants include employees of Russia's consulate and its mission to the UN, as well as trade representative, according to the criminal complaint.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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## Fast food workers not lovin' their McSalaries

Fast food workers rally for better wages outside a McDonald's restaurant in Chicago, Thursday. Demonstrations planned in 100 U.S. cities are part of a push by unions, worker advocacy groups and Democrats to raise the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 US. Protesters are calling for pay of \$15 an hour, but the figure is seen more as a rallying point. The push for higher pay faces an uphill battle. The industry competes aggressively on value offerings and companies have warned they would need to raise prices if wages were hiked. Most fast food locations are owned and operated by franchisees, which lets companies such as McDonald's Corp. and Burger King Worldwide Inc. say they don't control worker pay. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# Use bitcoins at own risk, China warns

### Banned in banks.

Country's central bank says people can trade the cyber currency, but it has 'no legal status'

Bitcoins suffered a new setback after China's central bank said Thursday its banks and payment systems are barred from handling the virtual currency.

The central bank said bitcoins did not qualify as a currency but private individuals still are allowed to trade them at their own risk.

Bitcoins are created, distributed, and authenticated independently of any bank or government. Their relative anonymity holds out the promise of being able to spend money across the Internet without scrutiny.

"Bitcoins are virtual goods that have no legal status or monetary equivalent and should not be used as currency," said a Chinese central bank statement.

It said financial institutions and payment systems were not allowed to use bitcoin prices for products and could not sell, trade or store bitcoins.

"Ordinary people are free to participate in transactions at their own risk," the central bank said.

Despite wild swings in value, the virtual currency has been moving toward broader acceptance. A growing number of companies accept bitcoins, which can be converted into cash.

Other governments are wary of the cyber currency.

In July, Thailand's central bank banned trading and use of bitcoins. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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# High EI rates padding feds' budget: Watchdog

The Harper government may need to depend on artificially high EI premiums, asset sales and spending restraint to balance the budget in time for the 2015 election, the federal budget watchdog says in a new report.

But the new assessment from the parliamentary budget office also projects that the government will be able to achieve its target of a balanced budget in 2015 and even amass a bigger surplus in the critical election year than the government projects.

The report says its base-line projection puts the 2015

### Creative accounting

A big chunk of the 2015-16 and 2016-17 surpluses is based on Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's stated intention to keep EI premiums frozen until 2016, the report states.

- Under normal rules, the budget office said, premiums should start coming down in 2015 when the EI fund flips from deficit to surplus.

budget surplus at \$4.6 billion — almost \$1 billion more

than the official estimate contained in last month's economic update paper.

As well, the budget office projection shows next year's deficit at \$3.5 billion — \$2 billion lower than Ottawa's estimate in last month's economic update — and within an eyelash of a balanced budget, once a \$3-billion cushion for surprises is factored out.

But the report shows that the improvement from the economic update is dependent not so much on a strong economy but on extraordinary measures and keeping payroll taxes higher than need be. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## SolarCity to back solar with Tesla batteries

The solar panel installer SolarCity is beginning to address one of solar power's big drawbacks: The sun doesn't always shine.

The solution: big battery packs that will provide backup power while lowering electric bills. The supplier: electric car maker Tesla Motors, whose CEO Elon Musk is also the chairman of SolarCity.

"Our goal is to be an energy provider, to provide all energy services," said SolarCity CEO Lyndon Rive.

The batteries will be offered first to commercial customers because of the way many commercial electric bills are calculated. SolarCity is also conducting a pilot program in California for homeowners, but because residential bills

are calculated differently — and the batteries are so expensive — it could be years before batteries make financial sense for homes.

"We know this is a long-term problem, so we are investing in it now," Rive said.

SolarCity shares rose \$2.83 US, or 5.4 per cent, to \$55 US in trading before the opening bell. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



# Freedom fighter, world icon

**Analysis.** Why Nelson Mandela was important to South Africa and the world



**ELISABETH BRAW**  
Metro World News

Nelson Mandela's cell of five square metres in Robben Island, where he spent 18 of his 27 years in prison, is now a virtual shrine for tourists and political figures alike. But Mandela was much more than a long-suffering prisoner. He was a world leader and a 20th century icon.

"His building a future for South Africa was a huge achievement," says Stephen Chan, professor of international relations at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and author of numerous books on southern Africa.

"He helped draft what may be the world's best constitution. He was instrumental in establishing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was crucial in helping

the country deal with its apartheid past. He was also a highly moral politician, setting the tone for the whole continent by stepping down after one term."

Lilias van Wyk, a white South African who lived through apartheid, is full of admiration for Mandela.

"There's nobody like him here in South Africa. (Our former president and Mandela's deputy president Thabo Mbeki) was a gentleman, but our current president is more interested in ladies than anything else," she tells Metro.

Indeed, Mandela succeeded where so many other freedom-fighters-turned-leaders have failed: as a democratic politician and later president, the former communist united his country.

Despite the black majority's pent-up anger over decades of discrimination, no civil war erupted. The transition to democracy under Mandela's leadership proceeded in a remarkably peaceful and orderly fashion. In his presidential inauguration speech, Mandela urged South Africans to practise for-

## Quote

**"We all think he was a fantastic man. It's amazing what he accomplished without any violence or shooting. And his dignity! I say, 'Thank you, Lord, that we've had him.'"**

Lilias van Wyk, a white South African who lived through apartheid

giveness, saying in Afrikaans, "Wat is verby," which translates to "What is past is past." And, through the power of his moral leadership, Mandela brought South Africa back into the international fold.

But, Africa watchers note, Mandela was no angel, inherently speaking.

"He became a saint because we made him one," says Chan. "We made him one to justify not putting enough pressure on the apartheid government to release him."

And though South African lore sees him as an old man who magically emerged from

decades in prison to govern his country with great success, the reality is a bit more nuanced. Explains Chan: "The four years between his release and his election as president in 1994 were turbulent. He had to go on a steep learning curve."

And, while Mandela was in charge as president, he mainly provided the strategic direction and left the nitty-gritty of governing to his deputy, Thabo Mbeki. That's in no way negative, but the frail 76-year-old didn't single-handedly perform the arduous task of running the country.

Even after stepping down, Mandela remained an icon at home and around the world: almost uniquely among dissidents elected to political power, he left with his integrity and popularity intact. For South Africa, the African continent, even the world he was a desperately needed icon of democratic success.

"We're all praying for a peaceful transition now," says van Wyk. "We're on our knees 24-7."

But the adoration of Mandela will no doubt continue.



South Africa's first black president, Nelson Mandela, revisits his prison cell on Robben Island, where he spent 18 of his 27 years in prison, in 1994.

GETTY IMAGES

SOURCES: ENL. PHOTOGRAPHING, PPS, SABC, URBINE, MAX KORB, TEXT: ANTHONY JOHNSTON

## 5 THINGS WE'LL REMEMBER ABOUT MANDELA

1

### FROM ROYALTY, LEGAL ACTIVISM TO "TERRORISM"

Nelson Mandela, raised by an African royal family in the Eastern Cape region of South Africa, studied law at university and opened the country's first black law firm at the age of 34. His quest to fight apartheid led him to co-found an armed wing of the African National Congress, classified as a terrorist group at the time.

2

### ROBBED OF LIBERTY, ON ROBBER ISLAND

In 1964, Mandela was jailed for life for plotting to overthrow the government by sabotage. For 27 years of his sentence, he was interned at the infamous Robben Island prison in a tiny cell, barely a few square metres in size. He was locked away, but not forgotten, as his power of resistance against apartheid spread from behind the bars to across the world.

3

### MANDELA'S FREE AFTER MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY

On February 11, 1990, clanking his wife Winnie's hand and dressed in a dignified brown suit, Mandela punches the air in a victory salute as he walks away from the gates of Victor Verster Prison, Mandela's freedom after 27 years in jail was one of the most iconic memories of the 20th century. Mandela was released following a relaxation of apartheid laws.

4

### SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT ... AND OLDEST

In 1994, after more than 300 years of white rule, South Africa has its first black president after the country's first fully democratic elections. At age 75, he became South Africa's oldest ever elected head of state.

5

### BLACK AND WHITE UNITED, THROUGH SPORT

The following year, in another epic historic — and sporting — moment of the 20th century, Mandela presents the Rugby World Cup trophy to captain Francois Pienaar, an Afrikaner. Wearing a shirt of the South African rugby team (once resented by the black population), Mandela's gesture was seen as a huge step of unity between blacks and whites.

1918-2013

1

visitor a year for 30 minutes was all Mandela was allowed to receive as a prisoner on Robben Island. He could write and receive one letter every half a year while interned there.



**"If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner."**

Mandela as dealing with his opponents. He was lauded worldwide for working with these authorities that once persecuted him, rather than remaining embittered.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**MONK.** Throughout his life, Mandela was often referred to as "Madiba," the name of his Xhosa-speaking tribe (but not his Xhosa name).

**MASTER OF DISGUISE.** Mandela's "Black Pimper" during his clashes with South African authorities because of his work for ending the political oppression. His disguise was a vital effort.

**KEEN CLASSICAL MUSICIAN.** Mandela was a fan of classical music and was known to be a talented pianist.

**A TASTE FOR THE SIMPLE.** Mandela's favourite food was a simple, traditional Xhosa meal of sorghum porridge with vegetables and meat — often the stomach-filling of an ox.

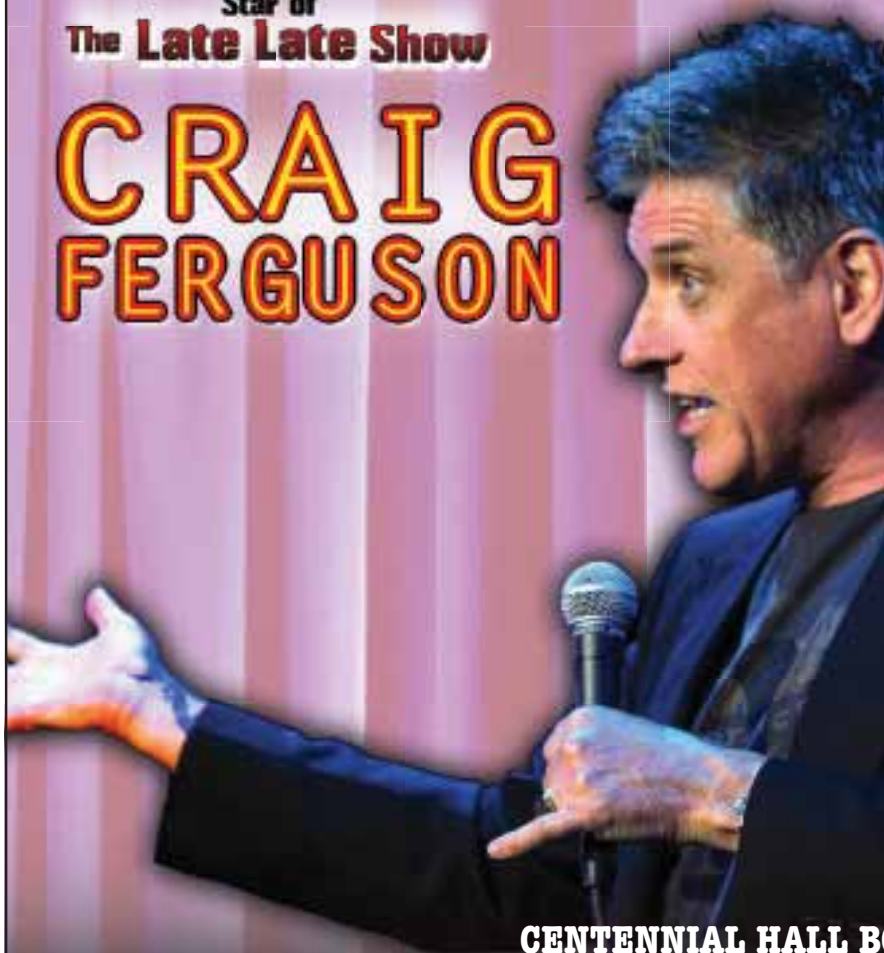
**MANDELA THE "TERRORIST"** For years, Mandela was charged as the "greatest terrorist leader" for his role in the anti-apartheid struggle. He was a member of the African National Congress against the anti-apartheid regime, and kept a more than the necessary of force to fight the U.S. to end. He was released from the house of

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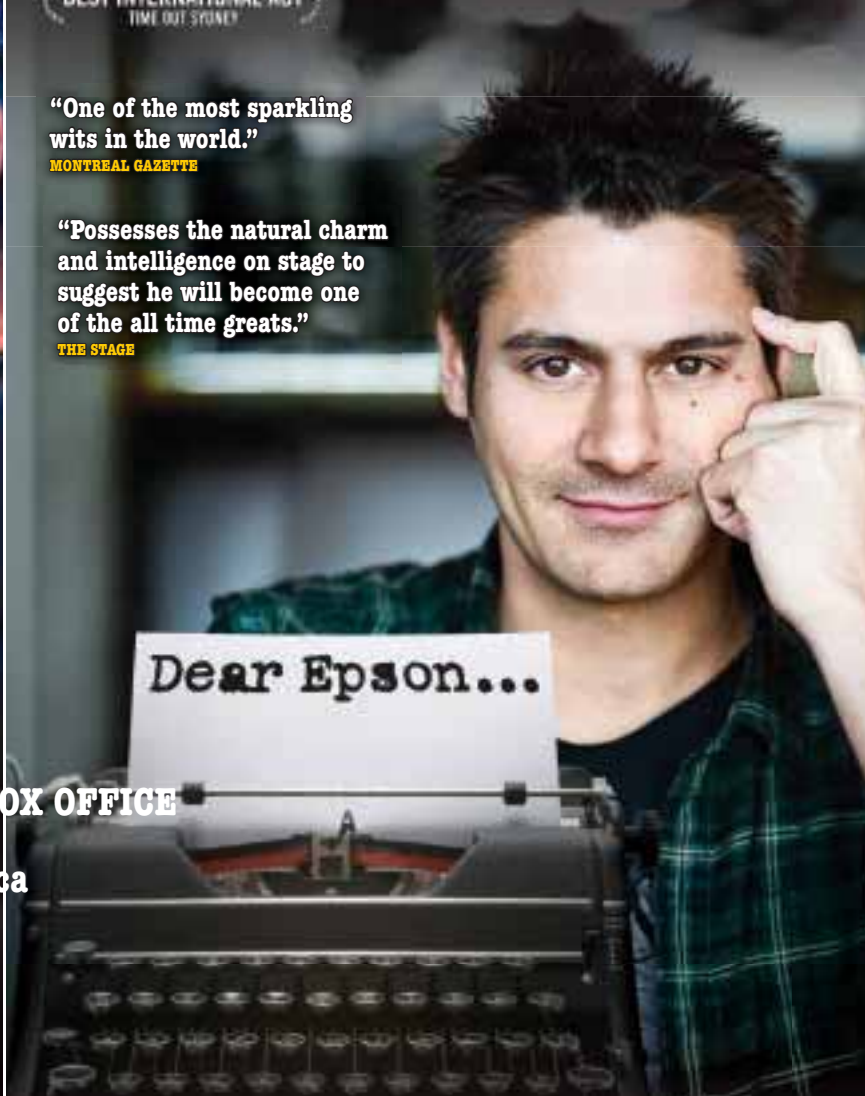
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**Synopsis**

"Well, it's Christmas time, pretty baby" ... and the Reel Guys are watching films... With our apologies to Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, who wrote those lyrics to Elvis Presley's Santa Claus is Back in Town — that song pretty much sums up what the holiday season means for us. Next week we'll be back to reviewing the big releases of the year, but before we get to that we thought we'd have a look at movies to get us in the Christmas spirit. They may not all be on Santa's nice list.



Billy Bob Thornton's *Bad Santa* is an antidote to all that icky holiday cheer. CONTRIBUTED

**Reel Guys**

**RICHARD  
CROUSE AND  
MARK BRESLIN**



# Santa's back in town

**Festive features.** The Reel Guys share their favourite holiday films, but not all of them bring comfort and joy

**Richard:** James Stewart stars in one of the movies that always puts me in the mood for Christmas, but it's not the one you think. Sure, *It's A Wonderful Life* is a classic and yuletastic, but I also enjoy *The Shop Around The Corner*. It's a Christmassy romance that sees shop co-workers Stewart and Margaret Sullivan at one another's throats at work, unaware that they are also anonymously courting one another as pen pals. All becomes clear on Christmas Eve and

they unwrap a big ol' gift basket of love. It's almost as heartwarming as a giant mug of hot chocolate.

**Mark:** Richard, as I'm Jewish, the Christmas holiday doesn't have quite the emotional pull on me that it might have on you. So, come Christmas Eve our family gathers around the TV, where we watch *Bad Santa* until we fall asleep from convulsive laughter. The story of an alcoholic, womanizing, foul-mouthed Santa is a delightful antidote to all that icky cheer I'm supposed to feel. Then, when the novelty dies down, I get with the program and watch *Elf*. But I wear my Grinch mask just in case a tear is shed.

**RC:** That green synthetic fur is great for soaking up tears! But an antidote to the icky cheer

you describe are two films set during the holidays without an ounce of tinsel treacle between them. In *The Long Kiss Goodnight* an amnesiac played by Geena Davis is outed as a former hired killer when she is recognized playing Mrs. Claus in a Christmas parade. The title *A Christmas Tale* sounds traditional enough, but the story focuses on the bitter rather than the sweet. The English title of this Catherine Deneuve drama could easily have been *Cancer for Christmas*, but despite the downer topic it's complex, funny and touching.

**MB:** I've never seen *A Christmas Tale*, Richard, thanks for the tip. But if it's holiday downers we're looking for, consider *Black Christmas*, a 1974 slasher flick starring Olivia Hussey. I guess you could double-bill this

one with the 2006 remake, but that might be, ahem, overkill.

**RC:** Many years ago, on the first Christmas the PMC — my Preferred Movie Companion — and I spent together, I screened *Black Christmas* for her, which almost stopped the relationship before it had a chance to really get going. I love the slaying slasher story. Her, not so much. I quickly rebounded with *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, which made the yuletide bright once again. Thanks, Chevy Chase, for saving Christmas and my relationship!

**MB:** Well, for a Jewish guy like me, I'll just have to be content with Adam Sandler's Hanukkah animation classic, *Eight Crazy Nights*, and a glass of Manischewitz!

2  
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# Women rule at Sundance 2014

## Lineup look-ahead.

Comedy giants try their hand at more serious roles

Ladies will continue to drive the feature lineup at the Sundance Film Festival as Robert Redford's independent-cinema fair celebrates its 30th anniversary next month in Park City, Utah.

At the top of the list released Wednesday, female directors dominate the competition, with eight out of the 16 films helmed by women. And in front of the camera, women reign supreme — only this time, comedians eclipse the layout.

Actresses like Amy Poehler, Kristen Wiig, Molly Shannon, Aubrey Plaza, Amy Sedaris and Jenny Slate all appear in features playing at the upcoming fest. And in the case of Wiig, Shannon and Plaza, we have funny gals turning serious.

Following her dramatic turn in the upcoming *The*



Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig take a turn for the serious at Sundance in *The Skeleton Twins*. CONTRIBUTED

*Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, Wiig will play the twin sister of fellow SNL alum Bill Hader in *The Skeleton Twins*. In the film, which also stars Luke Wilson and Ty Burrell, the siblings coincidentally cheat death on the same day.

Shannon and Plaza will star in *Life After Beth*, which focuses on a mysterious second chance at love after death.

"Comedians are big this year, especially with what we are calling 'funny ladies,'" said Sundance director John

Cooper. "A lot of these roles are setting up typical comedic actresses in roles that are a little deeper. In general, a lot of actors are being drawn to independent film because of the quality of interesting roles that they can play."

Sundance films typically

## By the numbers

Altogether, 117 feature-length films, selected out of 12,218 titles submitted (72 more than for 2013), are scheduled for Sundance 2014. Some 37 countries and 54 first-time filmmakers will be represented.

offer the ideal fabric and draw for performers who are departing from their usual Hollywood formulas.

Girls sitcom creator Lena Dunham, whose debut movie, *Tiny Furniture*, won best narrative feature when it premiered at the South by Southwest film festival in 2010, will appear in writer/director Joe Swanberg's *Happy Christmas*, also starring Anna Kendrick.

In her first feature since *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2*, Kristen Stewart plays a guard stationed at Guantanamo Bay in budding writer/director Peter Sattler's *Camp X-Ray*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Superhero

### Gal Gadot to play Wonder Woman

Wonder Woman is finally coming to the big screen. Israel-born actress Gal Gadot has been cast as Wonder Woman in Warner Bros.' superhero team-up film with Batman and Superman, the studio announced Wednesday. Already starring in the currently untitled film are Ben Affleck as Batman and Henry Cavill as Superman. Created in the 1940s and outfitted in patriotic colours, Wonder Woman was most famously played by Lynda Carter in the 1970s Wonder Woman television series. A sequel to *Man of Steel*, the Batman-Superman film is set to begin production early next year, and to be released in July 2015.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gal Gadot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Crime/Drama



### Out of the Furnace

Director. Scott Cooper

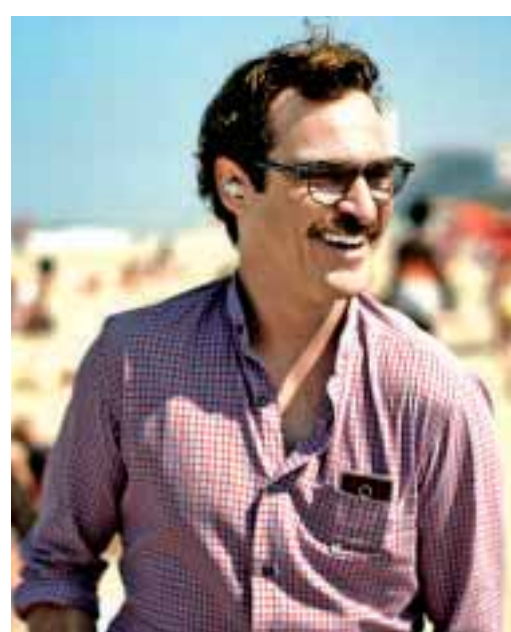
Stars. Christian Bale, Casey Affleck

This movie is bleaker than the most mournful George Jones song. When steel mill worker Russell Baze (Christian Bale) emerges from jail, he finds his live-in girlfriend (Zoe Saldana) no longer lives in and his Iraq War vet brother Rodney (Casey Affleck) is having trouble with civilian life. When Rodney disappears after a bare-knuckle fight run by Harlan DeGroat (Woody Harrelson) Russell attempts vigilante justice. Bale and Affleck hand in intense performances but Harrelson shines as the best movie scuzzball in recent memory. It's a portrait of a hard life drawn in hard-edged detail, with no relief for the characters or audience. **RICHARD CROUSE**

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### Her named best film by National Board of Review

Spike Jonze's futuristic romance *Her* has been named best film by the National Board of Review. The board also named Jonze best director, giving *Her* an early awards season boost. The Warner Bros. film starring Joaquin Phoenix and Scarlett Johansson is to be released December 18. Alexander Payne's father-son road trip *Nebraska* took two acting awards. Bruce Dern won for best actor, and his co-star Will Forte won for best supporting actor. Emma Thompson was awarded best actress for the Mary Poppins story *Saving Mr. Banks*. Best supporting actress went to Octavia Spencer for *Fruitvale Station*. The National Board of Review is a group of film academics, students and professionals founded in 1909. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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**Stories We Tell** has already picked up awards from the New York Film Critics Circle and the National Board of Review.  
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# Promoting Polley: Doc hits award circuit

## Stories We Tell.

Sarah Polley's true tale of her family secret has become a serious Oscar contender

Sarah Polley's intimate family tale *Stories We Tell* was supposed to be the little-seen documentary the actress-turned-director made between larger dramatic features.

Instead, it's become a serious Oscar contender and widely acclaimed documentary debut, garnering plenty of attention south of the border, including awards from the New York Film Critics Circle for best non-fiction film and the National Board of Review for best documentary.

Now, she and producer Anita Lee are gearing up for an awards circuit they hope will culminate with a golden statue at the Academy Awards.

"It's really, really exciting,"

Lee says of recently making the short list for a best documentary Oscar nomination, alongside 14 other films.

"It's so incredibly awesome."

Lee says Polley "is absolutely thrilled" with the surprise acclaim for her intensely personal film, which explores a long-held family secret about her true parentage.

They learned of making the Oscar short list Tuesday, the same day they were handed the best non-fiction prize by the New York Film Critics Circle. The National Board of Review announced it picked Polley's film as best doc on Wednesday.

Documentary branch members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will now choose five nominees from a pool of 15.

Lee says it's an honour just to make the short list, but she admits that she and Polley are ready to promote *Stories We Tell* to academy voters to boost their chances of snagging a nomination.

## On promoting the film

"I really am learning that it's not just about the merit of the film, it is very strategic and political and it involves marketing and a very big Oscar machinery that exists in the U.S. industry," says Lee, a producer for the National Film Board based in Toronto. "And so I feel like it's a lottery but the odds are not bad so we're hopeful."

That means hosting key screenings in Los Angeles and New York, and making sure they attend events like the International Documentary Association's IDA Awards on Friday. Lee says she's heading to L.A. on Thursday for the bash, where *Stories We Tell* will compete for the best feature award against *The Act of Killing*, *Blackfish*, *Let the Fire Burn* and *The Square*.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Food: That tasty thing that ties all of us together

## Spinning Plates.

New film documents three very different restaurants and their passionate people

The director of the new restaurant documentary *Spinning Plates* has a theory as to why TV programs about food continue to be wildly popular.

"Food is just so universal and familiar to everyone. It's comfortable, it's an emotional medium," said Joseph Levy, who cut his teeth producing the Food Network program *Into the Fire*.

"Even for people who aren't self-proclaimed foodies and don't go follow the hottest pop-up restaurants ... you probably still remember with fondness the first meal you ever had with your spouse, or the night you proposed, or a Thanksgiving or holiday meal that your grandparent might have made for you."

Added the filmmaker: "In the same way that music can bring back great feelings and great memories, so can food."



Chef Grant Achatz of the restaurant, Alinea, in Chicago. CONTRIBUTED

*Spinning Plates* — which is screening in Toronto at the TIFF Bell Lightbox and will be released Friday on iTunes — tells the story of three very different restaurants and the passionate personalities that drive them.

Gorgeously shot, it's a loving ode to food, a topic that has captivated Levy since his childhood in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The first restaurant profiled in *Spinning Plates* is world-renowned Chicago eatery Alinea, headed up by molecular gastronomy guru Grant Achatz (whom Levy first encountered while working on *Into the Fire*). The chef is a creative marvel, constantly driven to top his own culinary masterpieces (and to land the highest possible rating from the revered Michelin

restaurant guide).

The artistry of Alinea is a far cry from Breitbach's Country Dining, the second establishment featured in *Spinning Plates*. The oldest bar and restaurant in Iowa, its specialties are pie and fried chicken, served up by the tightly knit Breitbach clan — with help from residents of the tiny community of Balltown. Rounding out the narrative is Cocina de Gabby — an upstart mom-and-pop outfit run by a struggling Mexican couple in Tucson, Ariz.

"I wanted to take three restaurants that were seemingly disparate," explains Levy, 40. "For me the movie is really about how meaningful food can be and the places that serve it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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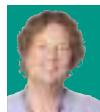
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# Music the world over



**SOUND CHECK**  
Alan Cross  
scene@metronews.ca

A world tour this week: Ireland, the Horn of Africa and Detroit.



## Carousel/Fight Like Apes

This Dublin band is fronted by singer MayKay, who might be quite insane. In this case, that's good. Don't let the cheery melody distract you from the lyrics.



## Hadnetna/Yohannes "Wedi" Tikabo

Hailed by some as "the Bob Marley of Eritrea," this song that seems to criticize the regime of President Isaias Afewerki. You just don't do that. Ex-pats are smuggling the song into the country to rally the masses.



## Rap God/Eminem

Em's latest video resurrects Max Headroom, the stuttering virtual talk show host from the '80s. Good to see him back. Max, I mean.

## Wedding bells. Who will be the real ruler of Versailles? Kim, Kanye?



Kim and Kanye may get hitched at French palace. GETTY IMAGES

Kim and Kanye are going to do a low-key, family-only wedding with little to no fuss or expense. Just kidding!

The guy released a song this year titled I Am a God, so obviously he's going to want to do it big, and that song has the line "in a French-ass restaurant, hurry up with my damn croissant" so he obviously has a fondness for the French, which can only mean

they're getting married at the Palace of Versailles!

Ah yes, the once humble homestead of Louis XIV will possibly host the magical union of Kanye and Kim, reports Us Weekly.

"Kanye has never been married and wants a big [wedding]," a source told the mag. "They are not working with a budget," the source continued. **METRO**

### Mind the App

## John Lennon: The Bermuda Tapes



**MIND THE APP**  
Kris Abel  
@RealKrisAbel  
scene@metronews.ca

### iPhone/iPad \$4.99

This virtual journey recreates John Lennon's stormy Bermuda sailing trip, the one that inspired the album Double Fantasy. Interviews, demo tapes, and beautiful illustrations combine for a wonderful, intimate experience.



THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 6 TO THURS., DEC. 12. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

### Hyland Cinema 240 Wharnclyffe Road South

All Is Lost (PG) Fri 5:15 Sat 7 Sun 12:45-7 Mon 5 Tue 3-7 Wed 1 Thu 2:30-7  
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri 2:45 Sat 12:45 Sun 2:45 Mon 8:45 Tue 9 Wed 6:45 Thu 4:30  
Gravity (PG) Fri 1-9:15 Sat 3:15-9 Sun 5:15 Mon 1-7 Tue-Wed 5 Thu 12:45  
How I Live Now (14A) Fri 7:15 Sat 5 Sun 9 Mon 3 Tue 1 Wed 3-9:15 Thu 9

### Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:40-6:50-9:35

About Time (14A) Fri-Wed 6:55-9:30  
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:30  
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:35-7:10-9:25  
Frozen (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-3:30-7:05-9:20  
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Thu 7  
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (STC) Thu 10  
Homefront (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:20-7:20-9:30  
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-7-9:45  
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:45-7:15-9:40

### Western Film Room 340, UCC Building,

### Argo (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50

Captain Phillips (14A) Fri-Thu 7  
Gravity (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40

### Wellington 8 Cinemas 983 Wellington Rd. S.

The Book Thief (PG) Fri 6:40-9:45  
Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:40-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:25  
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10-6:30 Mon-Thu 5:10  
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:40-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30  
Frozen (G) Fri 9:30 Sat-Sun 3:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:50  
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 1-6:50 Mon-Thu 5:15  
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) Thu 10  
Homefront (14A) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:15-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10  
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 6:45-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 12-12:30-3:20-4-6:45-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 5-7:40-8:15  
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri-Sun 9:25 Mon-Wed 8  
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 12:40  
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 3:45-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:20

### Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas 755 Wonderland Road South

About Time (14A) Fri 9:40 Sat-Sun 10:05 Mon 9:20 Tue 9:40 Wed-Thu 9:20  
The Book Thief (PG) Fri 3:40-6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-6:55-9:55

Mon 7-9:55 Tue 3:40-6:50-9:50 Wed 1:20-7-9:55 Thu 6:50-9:50  
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 5:15-7:50-10:30 Sat 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:35 Sun 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Mon 7:40-10:15 Tue 5:15-7:50-10:30 Wed 7:40-10:15 Thu 10:35  
Frozen (G) Fri 4:20-7 Sat-Sun 11:30-2-4:40-7:15 Mon 6:40 Tue 4:20-7 Wed-Thu 6:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1  
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 5-7:40-10:25 Sat-Sun 12-2:35-5:15-7:50-10:25 Mon 7:25-10 Tue 5-7:40-10:25 Wed 7:25-10 Thu 7:25-10:05  
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 10 No Passes Thu 10:10  
Holiday Inn (STC) Sun 12:45  
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 3:15-6:40-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:25-6:45-10 Mon 6:30-9:45 Tue 3:15-6:40-9:55 Wed 6:30-9:45 Thu 7:15-10:25 Fri 4:10-7:30-10:40 Sat-Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:40 Mon 7:15-10:25 Tue 4:10-7:30-10:40 Wed 1:15-7:15-10:25 Thu 6:30 Fri 3:30-4:20-6:30-7:30-9:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:20-1:10-3:20-4:20-6:30-7:30-9:20-9:50 Mon 6:45-8-9:35 Tue 3:30-4:20-6:30-7:30-9:20-9:50 Wed 6:45-8-9:35 Thu 6:55-7:20-9:20  
Philomena (PG) Fri 4:50-7:20-9:45 Sat 11:50-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sun 11:50-3:05-5:30-7:55-10:30 Mon 6:50-9:15 Tue 4:50-7:20-9:45 Wed 6:50-9:15 Thu 7:40-10:05 Fri 3:55-7 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:50-7 Mon 7:15 Tue 3:55-7 Wed 7:15 Thu 6:35 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1  
Royal Opera House: The Nutcracker (STC) Thu 7:30  
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 1:10  
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 4-7:10-10 Sat-Sun 4:05-7-9:50 Mon

7:30-10:20 Tue 4-7:10-10 Wed 7:30-10:20 Thu 7-9:55 Fri-Sun 10:40 Mon 10 Tue 10:40 Wed 10 Thu 10:30

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12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:10 Sat 1:10-3:55-6:55-10:20 Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:20 Mon 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:20 Tue 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:20 Wed 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:20 Thu 1:10-4:10-7:05-10:20  
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:05-10:20 Mon 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20 Tue 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20 Wed 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20 Thu 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20  
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 1:55-4:40-7:50-10:30 Sat 11:20-1:55-4:40-7:50-10:30 Sun 1:55-4:45-7:50-10:25 Mon 1:40-4:15-7:05-10 Tue-Thu 1:55-4:40-7:50-10:30  
Die Hard (14A) Wed 9:30  
Free Birds (G) Fri 1:20 Sat 11:15 Sun 12:40 Mon 1:05 Tue-Thu 1:20  
Free Birds 3D (G) Fri 3:25-5:30 Sat 1:25-4 Sun 2:45-4:50 Mon 3:15-5:25 Tue 3:25-5:30 Wed 4 Thu 3:25-5:30  
Frozen (G) Fri 12:55-3:30-6-8:30 Sat 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:40 Sun 1-3:30-6:50 Mon 2:05-4:50-8 Tue 2:05-4:50-7:35 Wed 1:30-4:15-6:50 Thu 2-4:50-7:30  
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 12:35-3:05-5:35-8:05-10:35 Sat 11:05-1:45-4:20-7-9:40 Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon 1-3:40-6:30-9:30 Tue 1-3:45-6:30-9:15 Wed 1:05-3:45-6:30-9:15 Thu 1:05-3:45-6:35-9:20  
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 10:30  
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) No Passes Thu 10  
Homefront (14A) Fri 1:05-3:20-

5:40-8:15-10:50 Sat 1:05-3:20-5:40-8-10:35 Sun 1:05-3:20-5:35-8-10:15 Mon 2:15-4:45-7:40-10:25 Tue-Thu 1:05-3:20-5:40-8-10:35  
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 12:30-12:45-3:45-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:30 Sat 12-3:30-4:15-6:50-7:35-10:10-10:50 Sun 12:30-1:15-3:40-4:20-6:50-7:25-10-10:35 Mon 1:15-1:30-4:20-5-7:25-8:20-10:25 Tue 1:15-1:25-4:20-5-7:25-8:20-10:25 Wed 1:15-1:30-4:20-5-7:25-8:20-10:25 Thu 1:15-3-4:20-6:30-7:25-10:25  
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire — The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Sat 1-4:10-7:20-10:35 Sun 12:45-4-7:05-10:15 Mon 1-4-7-10:05 Tue-Wed 1-4-7-10:10 Thu 2:05-6  
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri 11 Sat 10:30 Sun 9:30 Mon 10:10 Tue 10:05 Wed 10:10 Thu 10  
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Sat 12  
Oldboy (18A) Fri 8:10-10:45 Sat 7:55-10:45 Sun 7:30-10:05 Mon 10:30 Tue 8-10:30 Wed 7:35 Thu 8-10:30  
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri 2-4:50-7:55-10:55 Sat 11:10-2-4:50-7:45-10:40 Sun 1:35-4:30-7:35-10:15 Mon 1:45-4:30-7:15-10:30 Tue 1:30-4:15-7:15-10:15 Wed 4:15-7:15-10:15 Thu 1-4:15-7:15-10:15 Fri 1-4:15-10:15  
Screening Wed 1  
The Polar Express (G) Sat 11  
Puella Magi Madoka Magica the Movie: Rebellion (PG) Mon 7:30  
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri 2:20 Sat 11:45-2:20 Sun 1:25 Mon-Thu 2:20  
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 5-7:40-10:25 Sun 4:20-7:30-10:10 Mon 5-7:40-10:15 Tue-Thu 5-7:40-10:25

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# All hail the chief (of staff)

The chief of staff to a top politician is not usually the one in the spotlight. Generally, they prefer to pull the levers of power anonymously from the corridors and meeting rooms while press secretaries face the media. But with the Senate scandal, Nigel Wright has become something of a household name. In Hollywood, chiefs of staff are also having a moment thanks to shows such as *Scandal* and *Veep*. Here's how Wright measures up against his fictionalized counterparts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Nigel Wright

**Job:** Chief of staff to Stephen Harper  
**Age:** 50  
**Marital Status:** Single  
**Background:** Lawyer, then made millions as a Bay Street businessman.  
**Style:** Calm, cool and collected. Described by friends as having high ethical standards despite current allegations of fraud, breach of trust and bribery for covering Sen. Mike Duffy's contested expenses.  
**General health:** Marathon runner; gets up before dawn to exercise.  
**Quote:** "My intention was always to secure repayment of funds owed to taxpayers. I acted within the scope of my duties and remain confident that my actions were lawful."



## Cyrus Beene (Scandal)

**Job:** Chief of staff to U.S. President Fitzgerald Grant  
**Age:** 50s  
**Marital Status:** Married to White House reporter James Novak, with whom he has an adopted daughter.  
**Background:** Campaign guru and political fixer. Once offered chance to run Harvard University.  
**Style:** Ruthless, seemingly lacking in all scruples or limits. Helped rig an election; put a hit out on his own boyfriend; hired a hit man to kill a woman who had a fling with the president.  
**General health:** Poor. Has been hospitalized for a heart attack.  
**Quote:** "The nitty-gritty, morally bankrupt, back-alley-brawling rest of the game, that's me..."



## Linda Vasquez (House of Cards)

**Job:** Chief of staff to U.S. President Garrett Walker  
**Age:** Late 40s/early 50s  
**Marital Status:** Unclear; has a college-age son, Ruben.  
**Background:** A key player in Walker's campaign.  
**Style:** "She's as tough as a two-dollar steak," as well as loyal and devoted to party ideals. But her weakness is Ruben.  
**General health:** Trim, but you get the sense her chief exercise is marathon BlackBerry clicking.  
**Quote:** "Now we have to lead. And that means making tough choices."



## Eli Gold (The Good Wife)

**Job:** Chief of staff to Illinois Governor Peter Florrick  
**Age:** Late 40s/early 50s  
**Marital Status:** Divorced; has a daughter.  
**Background:** Political consultant, concert pianist.  
**Style:** Smooth, cunning, passionate. Investigated by the Department of Justice for vote buying. Deleted a critical voice mail sent to his boss' estranged wife by her love interest.  
**General health:** Fit, but high-strung and emotionally repressed.  
**Quote:** "I don't have many enemies in life — I get along with Republicans, Protestants, Catholics, even a few reporters. But the one thing I hate is amateurs."



## Amy Brookheimer (Veep)

**Job:** Chief of staff to Vice President Selina Meyer  
**Age:** 30s  
**Marital Status:** Single  
**Background:** Capitol Hill staffer  
**Style:** Generally even keeled, but with flashes of insecurity and frustration. Has mastered the art of managing a difficult, often irrational boss with a smile.  
**General health:** Generally stressed out, poor sleeping habits, potty mouth.  
**Quote:** "No, she cannot fall asleep on live TV. Not on C-Span. The irony would be too huge."



## Leo McGarry (The West Wing)

**Job:** Chief of staff to President Josiah Bartlet  
**Age:** 55 when he began the job  
**Marital Status:** Divorced; has a daughter.  
**Background:** Former air force pilot and labour secretary; made his millions in defence industry.  
**Style:** Generally calm and loyal, not a yes man, won't suffer fools. Excellent reputation.  
**General health:** Recovering alcoholic and barbiturates addict (following the real-life death of actor John Spencer, who played McGarry).

NIGEL WRIGHT PHOTO, THE CANADIAN PRESS; ALL OTHER PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

# Prepping for a crime spree

**Miniseries.** The cast of *Bonnie & Clyde* immersed themselves in their stories and each other's company

PAT HEALY  
Metro World News

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow began a two-year crime spree in 1932 that could never happen in 2013.

Sure, the fame-hungry robbers would be all over the Internet, posting selfies of Bonnie holding a pistol and chomping on a cigar on Instagram, but even if they were able to draw millions of followers on Twitter and maintain the public's interest for that amount of time,

they couldn't have dodged the cops for that long.

"You couldn't have it (happen) now because there would be an amber alert like 12 minutes later," says Lane Garrison, who plays Clyde's brother Buck on the two-night miniseries *Bonnie & Clyde*.

The concept of people being products of their times was very much present in the minds of the *Bonnie & Clyde* cast, which also includes Holliday Grainger and Emile Hirsch in the respective title roles, William Hurt as the Texas Ranger who hunts them down and Sarah Hyland (Haley from *Modern Family*) as Buck's wife. Garrison says they all read Jeff Guinn's book *Go Down Together: The True, Untold Story of Bonnie & Clyde* before coming onto the set.



Holliday Grainger and Emile Hirsch star in *Bonnie & Clyde*, which airs Sunday, Dec. 8 and Monday, Dec. 9 at 9 p.m. on Lifetime and History. CONTRIBUTED

"This was a young man dealing in the middle of the Depression era and they didn't have anything," says Garrison, who grew up in Dallas, where the gangsters are originally from. "They had no money and Buck lacked an education, so of

course he took to a life of crime. For me, stepping into that character, it was really about understanding what motivated him and that was family, first and foremost." To get that family feel, he and Hirsch also spent a good deal of time bro-ing out.

more meals in minutes

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## Twitter



@kirstiealley

oh lord how I love to make people laugh ..and vice versa ! We all need somethin to make us float off to happy land..and Sitcom is Drug free



@DanaDelany

Just opened a jar of honey vintage 1996. Did you know it's the only food that doesn't spoil? Besides Twinkies, of course.

## Will Miranda complete Sex and the City trilogy?

While Cynthia Nixon may have shot down the idea of a third Sex and the City film, co-star Kristin Davis is still holding out hope. "I'm going to have a little talk with Cynthia the next time I see her," Davis tells Haute Living magazine. "I don't think (a third film)



Cynthia Nixon ALL IMAGES GETTY

is a pipe dream. There is a discussion. People talk about it amongst the people who are the players, but I don't know if it will come together. It would be very exciting if it did."

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

## The Word



**Paltrow's festive Kors collection too rich for most people's blood**

TINA CHADHA  
Metro World News

Last month, we found out that Gwyneth Paltrow and Michael Kors would create a special holiday collection for Goop, Paltrow's lifestyle site. Well, that day has come, people. The line — which consists of

some of the Oscar-winner's favourite Kors pieces, but updated — debuts on the site Thursday and includes a high-end suede tote, an oversized gold watch, leather smoking slippers, a cashmere cape, a grey structured peplum sweater and a military-inspired wool coat. But like the clothes you imagine Gwyneth creating her organic meals in, these threads veer on the luxe side. The items range in price from \$145 for a bracelet to \$2,595 for the cosy cape. Something a bit more universal: Kors' grandmother's recipe for easy-to-make butter cookies.



Britney Spears

## Hey critics! Don't you dare burst Britney's bubble

The reviews for Britney Spears' new album, *Britney Jean*, have been pretty terrible — but Spears herself has no idea. "Britney's manager, Larry Rudolph, and her father, Jamie, won't allow her to see any of the bad reviews," a source tells Radar Online. "Britney doesn't even have access to the Internet and lives

in a bubble. Her team will allow her to believe that the album is being well-received. No one wants to upset Britney. If she were to read anything negative, it could send her into a bad tailspin, and both Larry and Jamie know that can't happen with her upcoming shows in Vegas about to launch."

## THE METRO NEWS JUST FOR LAUGHS DEBRA DIGIOVANNI CONTEST

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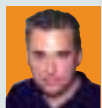
Just for laughs

Live



**Liquid Assets**

## Liqueur in the spotlight



**LIQUID ASSETS**  
Peter Rockwell  
@therealwineguy  
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

The term liqueur covers a lot of ground — from decadent, cream-based combinations, all the way to secret blends of herbs and spices. Most have a life outside of the holiday season, but I bet that for the majority of you buying a bottle in December is your yearly liqueur fix.

There's something sad about that. The liqueur market has never been more vibrant, venturing into packaging and flavour innovation territory any other booze category would fear to tread.

Not that the old standbys are resting on their liquid laurels. Bailey's (the Irish king of Christmas drinking) has introduced new flavoured family members and even Grand Marnier has dipped its cap in the pool of fruity expression, creating a special series of alternative versions.

Never to be outdone, Mexico's Kahlúa Limited Edition Gingerbread Liqueur (375 ml, \$15.49 - \$16.99) starts with the classic mix of rum and Arabica coffee and then adds gingerbread, nutmeg, cinnamon and clove. It results in a seasonal treat that's great over ice or as fuel in your favourite cup of joe. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



# Gingerbread graduates to a grown-up torte

## Almond-Chocolate Gingerbread Torte.

This decadent treat features the quintessential holiday flavour with chocolate and almonds

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Coat two 23-cm (9-inch) round layer cake pans with vegetable spray.

2. In a mixer bowl, beat butter until fluffy. Beat in

### Ingredients

#### Chocolate Ganache Glaze

- 90 ml (6 tbsp) whipping cream
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) light corn syrup
- 250 ml (1 cup) semi-sweet chocolate chips

#### Cake

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) butter, softened
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) molasses
- 2 eggs
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla
- 300 ml (1 1/4 cups) all-purpose flour
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) unsweetened cocoa powder
- 10 ml (2 tsp) ground ginger
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) cinnamon
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking powder
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) allspice
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) buttermilk
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) toasted slivered almonds, divided
- Chocolate Ganache Glaze
- 75 to 125 ml (1/3 to 1/2 cup) apricot or peach preserves



This recipe serves 12. THE CANADIAN PRESS

sugar, then molasses to blend thoroughly. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Beat in vanilla.

3. In another bowl, sift dry ingredients together. Beat into butter mixture just to blend. Mix in buttermilk. Coarsely chop 75 ml (1/3 cup) of the almonds; mix into batter. Pour into prepared pans, dividing equally and smoothing tops. Bake in centre of oven for about 15

minutes, just until springy to the touch. Let cool in pans on racks for 5 minutes, then turn out onto racks to cool completely.

4. Meanwhile, prepare glaze. In a small saucepan over medium heat, bring whipping cream and corn syrup to a boil. Remove from heat and mix in chocolate chips until smooth. Let cool until mixture is thick

enough to spread on cake. Set aside.

5. Place one cake layer on a serving plate; cover with preserves and drizzle with glaze. Top with remaining cake layer. Spread glaze evenly over top and sides of torte. Garnish with remaining almonds. Let glaze set for at least 1 hour before serving. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

# 3 LEE

## Nemat's RESTAURANT

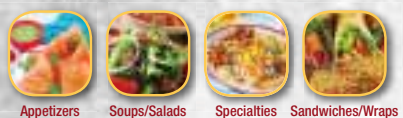
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# Holiday cocktail party stars

Say you don't like your holiday decor all twee and buttoned up. Typical Christmas themes — country charm, Scandinavian-influenced restraint, Victorian opulence, clean-lined urban chic — all feel a bit limiting after a while. You'd prefer something unexpected, a bit of visual wit. Something that will truly delight, in the way that any self-respecting festival of lights should. So we went in search of seasonal sparkle that doubles as conversation pieces. Here's what we found.

## Mantelpiece magic

Part of the brilliance of thin wire light strings such as these is that they're easy to bend and form into shapes. Starry String Lights in Diamond with silver wire finish or Amber with copper wire finish, \$15-\$99; and French Glass Cloches, \$69-99; all restorationhardware.com.



## Crystal palace

A grouping of these lanterns would look like a constellation of giant snowflakes. Pizzelle paper lanterns, \$42-\$55 US each, and white battery-powered triple LED light, \$4.95 US each, all lunabazaar.com.



## Mirror, mirror

Does anything say eclectic modern holiday like a disco-ball gnome? This creature from CB2 is so popular he's back-ordered until early December, but well, some things are worth waiting for. If it's a conversation piece you're after, look no further. Disco gnome, \$149, cb2.com.



## Cheeky charm

Who would have thought that simple mirrored ornaments could have so much personality? We can't help smiling at these. Retro Mirror Star and Asterisk Holiday Ornaments, set of four, \$18 at studiolicious.etsy.com.



## Shadow boxing

Anthropologie sister site Terrain doesn't ship to Canada, which leaves you with two options. One, if you have any U.S. relatives asking for your wish list, send them a link to shopterrain.com and let them figure out the rest. Two, if you're DIY-minded, take inspiration from their Gilded Shadow Box. Source a frame from a craft-supply store, then find bits and bobs to create a magical vignette.



## Gem of a find

If you gave a product designer a brief that said, "quirky and glowing," this could very well be the result — and that's before you add the deer antlers. Hearts, stars and various gem-like shapes adorn these indoor light strings. Strala light chain, 16 bulbs, \$16.99, Ikea.



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REUTERS/Erk De Castro

## DEADLY TYPHOON DEVASTATES THE PHILIPPINES

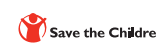
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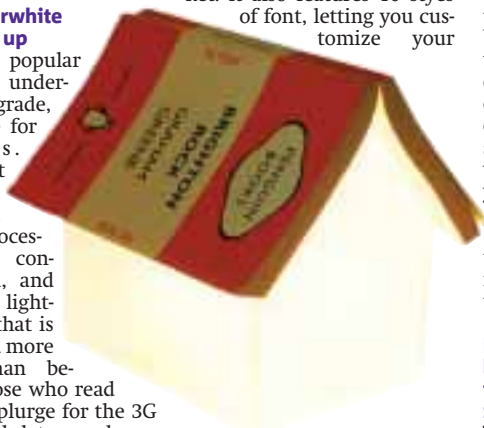


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For Metro

Don't just buy the bookworm on your list another paper-back. Think outside the box and get them some tech they can use to enhance their reading experiences.

#### Kindle Paperwhite — \$139 and up

Amazon's popular eReader has undergone an upgrade, just in time for Christmas. The latest model features a faster processor, higher contrast screen, and a next-gen lighting system that is brighter and more uniform than before. For those who read on the go, splurge for the 3G model, which lets you down-



#### Kobo Aura HD — \$169.99

Text so crisp and clear you will forget you are reading on an electronic device. Kobo Aura HD features an ultra-high resolution display with 265 dpi, higher than most eReaders on the market. It also features 10 styles of font, letting you customize your

load books without Wi-Fi and no monthly fees.



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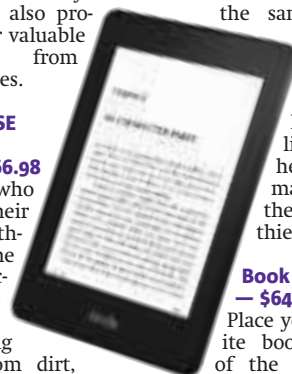
Disguise any eReader as a classic novel. These U.K.-made covers come in a variety of sizes for multiple eReaders and span a wide variety of literary styles. Not only are these covers stylish, they also protect your valuable eReader from scratches.

#### DryCASE waterproof eReader case — \$66.98

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Banana Republic Turquoise Statement Necklace, \$134, available at [Banana Republic](http://bananarepublic.ca), [bananarepublic.ca](http://bananarepublic.ca).

Tiffany sterling silver Atlas Lariat, \$275, available at Tiffany, [tiffany.ca](http://tiffany.ca).

Swarovski Knot Ring, \$120, available at Swarovski, [swarovski.ca](http://swarovski.ca).

Baublebar Crystal Diadem Drops earrings, \$34 US, available at [baublebar.com](http://baublebar.com).

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**Biotherm Homme Special-Edition Skincare gift set** (\$52 via biotherm.ca) and **Rob Stewart's Revolution** (\$15 via Target, Futureshop and therevolutionmovie.com) are sold separately, but together make a great underwater adventure theme gift. Both contribute to charities that protect global ocean resources.

**Braun CoolTec Shaver** is the first dry electric razor that cools skin during use to reduce shaving irritation. From \$149.99 at London Drugs and Best Buy. See braun.com for more retailers.

**Clarisonic Aria** is the latest version of the lauded skin care cleansing system. It's more streamlined, travel-friendly, has three speeds and comes in black. \$225 at Shoppers Drug Mart beauty boutiques and Sephora.

**Kiehl's Facial Fuel Energizing Moisturizer** wakes skin up with antioxidants vitamins C and E as well as soy. Heavy Lifting Firming Moisturizer helps get rid of flaky patches, minimizes fine lines and improves elasticity and firmness. \$30 and \$40 at Kiehls stores and kiehls.ca.

**Lush Dirty Gift Set** is a zippy fresh, wake-him-up trio of Dirty Springwash shower gel, Dirty Body Spray

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**Micropedi Man Rapid Hard Skin Remover** swiftly and painlessly buffs away rough, dry skin to leave feet smooth and comfortable. \$49.99 at Shoppers Drug Mart.

**Shiseido Man Active Energizing Concentrate** is a quick-absorb fluid that controls oil and shine, and firms and brightens skin, too. \$70 at Hudson's Bay and thebay.com.

**Sonicare Black Diamond-Clean Electric Toothbrush** delivers 31,000 brush strokes in two minutes, whiter teeth in seven days, and improved gum health in two weeks. Comes with USB rechargeable case. \$229.99 at Shoppers Drug Mart, Target and London Drugs.



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Aveda Invati, clockwise, from left, Lush Dirty Gift Set, Tay Essential Oils Bar Soap, Clarisonic Aria, Shiseido Man Active Energizing Concentrate, Braun CoolTec Shaver, Kiehl's Facial Fuel Energizing Moisturizer, and Micropedi Man Rapid Hard Skin Remover.

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com.



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house, \$35, avail-  
able at Chapters/  
Indigo, chapters.  
indigo.ca.



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Box With  
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available  
at Pet Valu,  
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Lightning head coach Micheal Ray Richardson, who faced an addiction years ago while playing in the NBA, is one of the key proponents of the team's tough stance on drug use and testing. "I learned my lesson," Richardson told Metro. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

# Lightning serious about drug testing

**NBL Canada.** London club proactive in uncovering illegal substances



**DAVE LANGFORD**  
dave.langford@metronews.ca

Many professional sports leagues in North America administer drug tests.

But the London Lightning take that practice one step farther — they do it themselves even though it's not mandated by the National Basketball League of Canada.

"Our team doctor administers the tests for us and it's done professionally and privately and we make sure we

take care of things," Lightning general manager Taylor Brown said in an interview with Metro on Thursday.

Brown said the Lightning have been testing their players for both recreational drugs and steroids for all three seasons the team — and the league — have been in existence.

Brown said they've had a "couple of positive tests" in the first two seasons, leading the team to release one player.

"I don't want to call him out because he's still in our league," Brown said. "Hopefully, he's clean."

The players are tested "three or four times" each season, Brown said, and the positive tests were for marijuana only.

"We are out in the community (including about 100

schools) talking drugs and alcohol abuse," he said. "We want to make sure we are setting the right example."

Lightning head coach Micheal Ray Richardson, a former NBA all-star once banned for life from the league after testing positive for cocaine use, is very clear on the subject of drugs and sports at this point in his life.

"I think (the testing) is great," Richardson said. "If you are going to be out speaking to kids about education and drugs, you should prove to yourself that you are doing the right thing."

"I learned my lesson. And I probably won't be able to save everybody, but maybe I can change one or two minds."

Meanwhile, Brown said it's difficult for the league as a

whole to implement the testing "right now financially" but the wording is in "every player contract."

The Canadian Football League, for example, has no drug testing at all and there have been whispers about how much is actually done in other pro leagues.

Lightning owner Vito Frijia, Richardson and Brown are unified in their support for the practice.

"(Micheal Ray) is our biggest advocate about keeping that stuff away from London," Brown said. "He's been clean for 35 years. He doesn't want it anywhere near him."

And the final word goes to Richardson.

"In professional sports, there is no place for drug usage. Period."

## NBL Canada

### Lightning lose to Power, winning streak ends at 8

The Mississauga Power ended the London Lightning's winning streak at eight games Thursday with a 95-91 victory in Mississauga.

The Lightning, after losing their first two games this season, then rolled off eight straight before Thursday. Mississauga has handed London two of its three losses this season.

Nick Okorie led the Power with 35 points and Elvin Mims had 30 for the Lightning.

On Friday, the Lightning will work out newcomer Tony Bennett, a six-foot-one guard who most recently played in Lithuania. Bennett has played against many of the current Lightning players.

The Lightning play their next game Saturday at Budweiser Gardens against the Windsor Express. Game time is 7 p.m. They are also at home Sunday at 2 p.m. against Brampton A's.

On the weekend, the Lightning will play host to the Charity Roundball Classic on Saturday, and Sunday at the Gardens. The tournament will benefit the Saunders cancer campaign. The championship team will be honoured at halftime of the Sunday game.

The eight high schools are Saunders, Westminster, Clarke Road, Mother Theresa, Strathroy, Catholic Central, Central and Oakridge.

DAVE LANGFORD/METRO

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## MLB

## Wilson stays with Dodgers for 2014

Brian Wilson will be wearing Dodger Blue for at least another season.

The free-agent reliever agreed to a \$10 million, one-year contract to stay with the Los Angeles Dodgers, a source said Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NFL

## Cutler and Briggs out for Monday

Chicago Bears QB Jay Cutler and linebacker Lance Briggs will miss Monday night's home game against Dallas.

Cutler had a high ankle sprain Nov. 10 and Briggs suffered a shoulder fracture Oct. 20.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## MVP material?



"It's one of those things, it's not just me."

Russell Wilson, Seattle Seahawks quarterback, evasively sharing merits with his teammates when asked about the buzz over being added to the MVP race after leading Seattle in a magic Monday night showing against New Orleans.

## Speed faces strength in Lions-Eagles game

**NFL.** Detroit's tough defence to face a big test in Philadelphia on Sunday



Detroit coach Jim Schwartz  
NAM Y. HUH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

I don't think it's going to affect us at all.... We have seen teams that like to do it. Pittsburgh did a little bit of it as our last more recent experience against a really fast and up-tempo type team."

Suh and the rest of Detroit's defensive line looked terrific against the Packers, leading the Lions to a 40-10 win last Thursday that might not have been as close as the score indicated. Detroit (7-5) leads the NFC North, while the Eagles (7-5) are tied with Dallas atop the NFC East.

So this matchup offers major playoff implications - in addition to the intriguing contrast of speed against strength.

Philadelphia has been sacked 35 times, but whatever pressure opposing defences have managed doesn't seem to be forcing Foles into very many mistakes. Foles has a passer rating of 125.2, easily the league's best mark.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NHL

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	27	18	7	2	75	55	38
Montreal	29	17	9	3	80	62	37
Detroit	29	14	8	7	81	79	35
Tampa Bay	27	16	10	1	76	67	33
Toronto	28	14	11	3	77	77	31
Ottawa	28	11	13	4	82	92	26
Florida	28	7	16	5	61	95	19
Buffalo	28	6	20	2	48	85	14

## METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	29	19	9	1	89	66	39
Washington	28	14	12	2	83	82	30
NY Rangers	28	14	14	0	62	71	28
Philadelphia	28	13	13	2	63	68	28
New Jersey	29	11	12	6	64	71	28
Carolina	28	11	12	5	61	79	27
Columbus	28	11	14	3	68	80	25
NY Islanders	28	8	15	5	74	96	21

## Thursday's results

Dallas at Toronto  
San Jose at Pittsburgh  
NY Rangers at Buffalo  
Winnipeg at Florida  
Boston at Montreal  
Ottawa at Tampa Bay  
Carolina at Nashville  
NY Islanders at St. Louis  
Chicago at Minnesota  
Colorado at Edmonton

## Wednesday's results

Calgary 4 Phoenix 1  
Montreal 4 New Jersey 3 (SO)  
Philadelphia 6 Detroit 3  
Friday's games — All times Eastern  
San Jose at Carolina, 7 p.m.  
Minnesota at Columbus, 7 p.m.  
Detroit at New Jersey, 7 p.m.  
Anaheim at Chicago, 8 p.m.  
Colorado at Calgary, 9 p.m.  
Phoenix at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

## Saturday's games

Philadelphia at Dallas, 2 p.m.  
Winnipeg at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.  
Nashville at Washington, 7 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Boston, 7 p.m.  
Florida at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Buffalo at Montreal, 7 p.m.

## NFL

## Thursday's result

Houston at Jacksonville

## Sunday's games — All times Eastern

Kansas City at Washington, 1 p.m.  
Minnesota at Baltimore, 1 p.m.  
Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
Oakland at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
Miami at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
Cleveland at New England, 1 p.m.  
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
Atlanta at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
Detroit at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.  
Tennessee at Denver, 4:05 p.m.  
N.Y. Giants at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.  
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.  
St. Louis at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.  
Carolina at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.  
Monday's game  
Dallas at Chicago, 8:40 p.m.

## NBA

## Thursday's results

New York at Brooklyn  
L.A. Clippers at Memphis  
Miami at Chicago

## Wednesday's results

Atlanta 107 L.A. Clippers 97  
Phoenix 97 Houston 88  
Dallas 100 New Orleans 97  
Indiana 95 Utah 86  
Portland 111 Oklahoma City 104  
Cleveland 98 Denver 88  
Detroit 105 Milwaukee 98  
San Antonio vs. Minnesota, ppd.  
Friday's games — All times Eastern  
Philadelphia at Charlotte, 7 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Washington, 7 p.m.  
Denver at Boston, 7:30 p.m.  
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.  
Cleveland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.  
Golden State at Houston, 8 p.m.  
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 8 p.m.  
Toronto at Phoenix, 9 p.m.  
Utah at Portland, 10 p.m.  
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

## Saturday's games

Denver at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.  
L.A. Clippers at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.  
Miami at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
Golden State at Memphis, 8 p.m.  
Detroit at Chicago, 8 p.m.  
Indiana at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.  
Brooklyn at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.  
Sacramento at Utah, 9 p.m.  
Dallas at Portland, 10 p.m.

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	29	20	5	4	105	80	44
St. Louis	26	18	5	3	91	60	39
Colorado	25	19	6	0	76	52	38
Minnesota	29	16	8	5	70	67	37
Dallas	26	13	9	4	74	76	30
Winnipeg	29	13	12	4	78	82	30
Nashville	28	13	12	3	63	78	29

## PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	27	19	3	5	96	62	43
Anaheim	30	18	7	5	93	80	41
Los Angeles	29	18	7	4	76	62	40
Phoenix	28	16	8	4	92	90	36
Vancouver	30	15	10	5	80	78	35
Calgary	27	10	13	4	74	94	24
Edmonton	29	9	18	2	75	101	20

Note: 2 points for a win, 1 point for overtime loss.  
Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.  
New Jersey at NY Rangers, 7:30 p.m.  
Anaheim at St. Louis, 8 p.m.  
Calgary at Edmonton, 10 p.m.  
NY Islanders at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

## SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	15	23	38
Malkin, Pgh	7	30	37
Kane, Chi	16	16	32
Getzlaf, Ana	14	18	32
Tavares, NYI	11	21	32
Steen, STL	20	11	31
Perry, Ana	16	15	31
Ovechkin, Wash	21	9	30
Zetterberg, Det	11	19	30
Thornton, SJ	5	25	30
Kunitz, Pgh	14	14	28
Couture, SJ	10	18	28
H. Sedin, Van	7	21	28
Karlsson, Ott	7	20	27

## Thursday's games not included

## MLS PLAYOFFS

## MLS CUP

## Saturday's game

Kansas City vs. Salt Lake, 4 p.m., EST

Detroit coach Jim Schwartz offered one obvious antidote to Philadelphia's fast-paced offence, which his Lions will try to contain this weekend. "Three and out," Schwartz said, before adding the obvious qualifier. "That's easier said than done."

After a dominating performance on Thanksgiving against Green Bay, the Detroit defence heads to Philadelphia to face the Eagles on Sunday. Philadelphia's LeSean McCoy has already rushed for 1,088 yards this season, and Nick Foles has thrown for 19 touchdowns with no interceptions.

The Eagles' up-tempo, no-

huddle offence is designed to put pressure on the opposing team. It could be a particularly big test for Detroit, which has built its defence around a powerful defensive line.

"I look forward to it," defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh said. "Substitutions may be a little bit of an issue, but

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# Horoscopes

## Aries

March 21 - April 20

You may be a nice guy but most likely you will refuse to come to the rescue of someone who is in distress today. It may seem heartless but it's the only way they are going to learn.

## Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Too often you have held back while those with considerably less talent have achieved the kind of success that should have been yours. Shed your inhibitions and let the world see what a star you are.

## Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You may be under pressure to apologize for something you said to a friend or colleague but is that wise? Not if you truly meant it. Besides, why give them the impression that you can be easily swayed?

## Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You may be behind in your schedule but don't worry about it. If anything, you should be aiming to conserve your energy now — if only because by the early part of next week you will be working harder than ever.

## Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

There are only so many hours in a day, so identify your priorities and don't try to do everything at once. Aim for quality rather than quantity in all things at all times. One way or another, it will be enough.

## Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You have reason to be annoyed with someone but because you are an agreeable individual, you may allow them to wriggle out of it by saying the right words. That'd be a mistake.

## Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It's not like you to look back and wish things had been different but that may be your attitude today. OK, so you could have done a lot of things differently and some things better but that's life.

## Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Everything is going according to plan and even though you may not get all the things you desire today, you will certainly get all the things you need. The cosmos, as always, are looking over and looking after you.

## Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You may not be the best in certain areas but in one field of endeavor you have no equals and that is what you should be focusing on now. Don't try to be all things to all men.

## Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Close your ears to criticism and don't waste time trying to get even with those who have let you down or said hurtful things. Time is too precious to waste on petty people.

## Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

There is no point complaining about a certain person's behaviour when what they are doing now is what they did yesterday and the day before that. It's in their nature, so either accept it or move away from their influence.

## Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You need more fun in your life but you won't get it doing the same old things with the same old people. The planets are urging you to be more adventurous. **SALLY BROMPTON**

# Crossword: Canada Across and Down

## Across

- Abodes-in-buildings, e.g.
- Labels
- Biblical boats
- E! Canada host who previously hosted "So You Think You Can Dance Canada": 2 wds.
- Bulk containers
- London, ON's nickname: 2 wds.
- Meat cut
- Univ. paper
- Incite
- Be an active volcano
- Old music high notes
- Pick-up-sticks game
- "\_\_\_ There Yet?" (2005): 2 wds.
- Teeth-related
- Head's holder
- Headed
- "Bravo!"
- Ex-VP Al
- Papua New Guinea seaport
- "The Daily Show" host Jon
- London, ON university
- Legume
- Lady Gaga song
- Lady's man
- Computer key
- Actress Ms. Cannon
- Does canine work
- \_\_\_ beaucoup!
- Veggie of Japan
- Venus de \_\_\_ (Ancient statue)
- Lost & \_\_\_
- Waning waves
- "Platoon" (1986) war, for short
- Designer, Christian \_\_\_ (b.1905 - d.1957)
- PM Harper's hockey book: 3 wds.



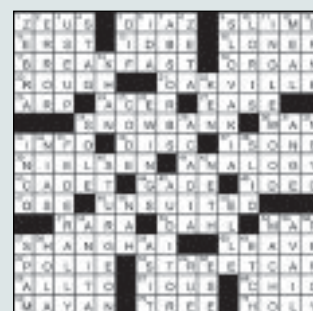
- Prefix meaning 'High'
- Canadian actress who starred in 1933's "42nd Street": 2 wds.
- "\_\_\_ have you decided yet?" (Er, like, did you make up your mind?)
- Wall St. landmark, commonly

- Fewer
- Bruce Wayne's butler
- Celebrity magazine
- Scottish pattern
- "\_\_\_Devil" (1989)
- Musician Mr. Puente
- Rio Tinto \_\_\_ (Aluminum company based

- in Montreal)
- Soaring
- Band's performance
- "It's all \_\_\_" (Foggy memory comment)
- Canadian painter, Jean Paul \_\_\_ (b.1923 - d.2002)
- Sweaters and

- scarves
- US tax ID
- Food additive
- Deli bread
- Makes much money: 2 wds.
- Pack
- Cat call
- Apple/snake lieu
- 1992 Disney animated flick
- "Madame Curie" (1943) director, Mervyn \_\_\_
- Salad green
- Internet junk
- Cinematic federal agency, \_\_\_ Canada
- Have carrots or potatoes, basically: 2 wds.
- "Heart and Soul" '80s group
- Hair salon task
- BC city in the northern Okanagan
- Conclusion
- Scotiabank Saddledome team
- Actress/entrepreneur Suzanne
- Oddity
- Does as instructed
- \_\_\_ es Salaam, Tanzania
- Create cupcakes
- Fr. holy woman
- Brother's sis, to Mom [abbr.]
- Son-of-a-\_\_\_
- Collective Soul song

# Yesterday's Crossword



# Sudoku

## How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

# Yesterday's Sudoku

9	1	4	7	3	6	8	2	5
2	5	6	1	8	4	3	7	9
3	8	7	9	2	5	1	6	4
6	4	9	3	7	1	5	8	2
5	7	8	2	4	9	6	3	1
1	3	2	5	6	8	9	4	7
8	6	5	4	9	7	2	1	3
7	2	1	6	5	3	4	9	8
4	9	3	8	1	2	7	5	6

	4			6		9		1
			5		4		3	2
	7	3			5		8	
			2		6			
	8		1			4	9	
9	2		7		1			
8		6		9			7	3

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**Saturday**

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